■ Lifestyle / C2

Female eye for the straight guy's look

■ Across / A17

Journalist found tortured, murdered in Tabuk, Kalinga

■ Metro / A23

Metro mayors adopt typhoon-stricken local governments

■ News / A3

Multi-sectoral Operation Sagip Buhay appeals for donations for typhoon victims

■ Entertainment / A21

Ex-Playboy model now heavyweight businesswoman

RP could be world's 5th mining power, says GMA

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr., Blanche S. Rivera and Michelle V. Remo

THE PHILIPPINES could become the fifth largest mining power in the world because of the Supreme Court's decision allowing foreign investors to exploit mineral resources in the country, President Macapagal-Arroyo said yesterday.

RP COULD/ A21

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

UK Prince Andrew arrives in RP to howling welcome

By TJ Burgonio

DESPITE the "bloody" stormy weather in Manila, Prince Andrew of the United Kingdom arrived yesterday afternoon. He barely made it

UK PRINCE/ A21

BAKA MAANOD NG BAHA!

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph
Friday, December 3, 2004 ★★ 90 pages / 11 sections / Vol. 19 / No. 359 P18
website: www.inq7.net

'Yoyong' slams Luzon

Filipinos prepare to face crisis together

By Norman Bordadora and PDI Southern Luzon and Visayas Bureaus

EVEN before it made landfall last night, super Typhoon "Yoyong" had already brought more death and destruction to the provinces of Southern and Central Luzon still reeling from Typhoons "Violeta" and "Unding" and Tropical Depression "Winnie."

Packing maximum sustained winds of 185 kph near the center and gusts of 220 kph, "Yoyong," which had a diameter of 800 km, battered the eastern part of the country, causing landslides, flashfloods and a tidal wave.

"Yoyong," moving at 33 kph in a west northwesterly direction, was expected to make landfall over Aurora province last night and through the evening cross Nueva Vizcaya, Benguet, La

YOYONG/ A10

SYMBOLIC of the country, battered by four storms within a span of 18 days, down on its knees with something close to despair disfiguring the face of its future, is this family in Dingalan, Aurora province, waiting for deliverance from their state of cold, hunger and darkness. REM ZAMORA

NPA blamed for logging; ex-rebel is forest czar

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday blamed the New People's Army for the rampant deforestation that caused the deadly landslides in Luzon, and designated one of its former leaders as her reforestation czar whose tasks include running after insurgents engaged in illegal logging.

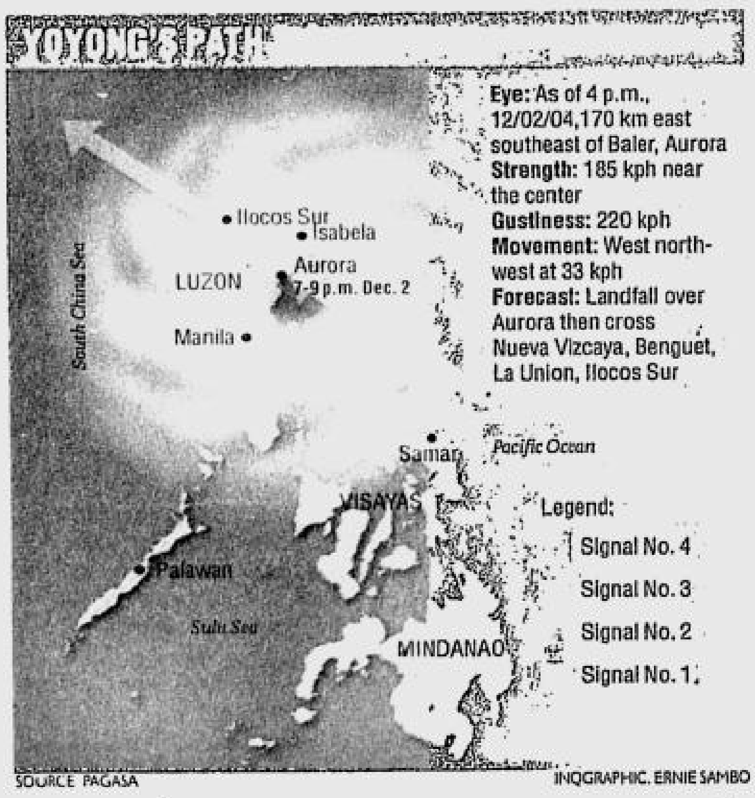
"I've been informed that the New People's Army has been heavily involved in illegal logging activities," Ms Arroyo said in a speech at the 14th general assembly of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines at the Manila Hotel.

At the same forum, Ms Arroyo designated retired Brig. Gen. Victor Corpus as chair of the government-owned Natural Resources Development Corp. (NRDC), a position that would make him "principal overseer of all reforestation programs of the government nationwide."

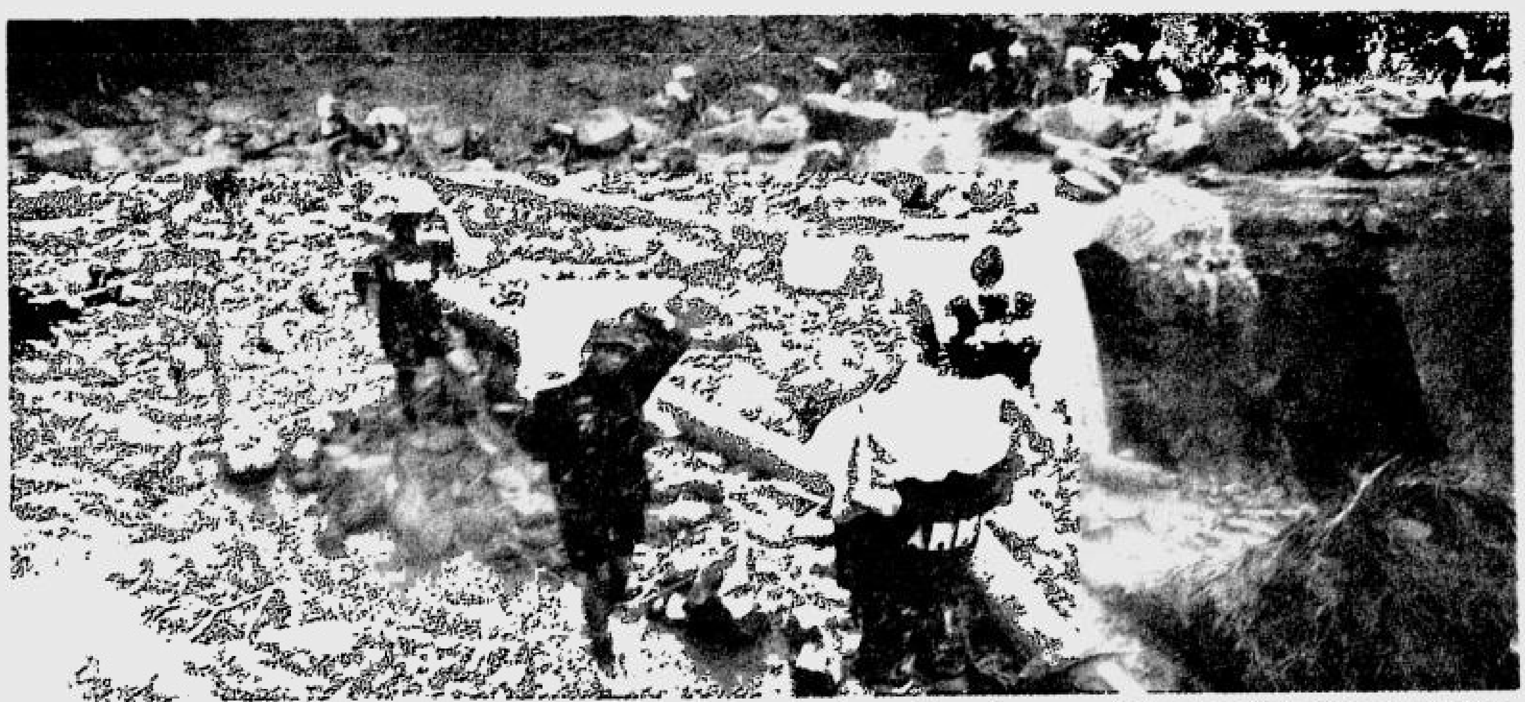
"I am also making him (Cor-

NPA BLAMED/ A21

YOYONG'S PATH


Eye: As of 4 p.m., 12/02/04,170 km east southeast of Baler, Aurora
Strength: 185 kph near the center
Gustiness: 220 kph
Movement: West northwest at 33 kph
Forecast: Landfall over Aurora then cross Nueva Vizcaya, Benguet, La Union, Ilocos Sur
Ilocos Sur
Isabela
Aurora
7-9 p.m. Dec. 2
LUZON
Manila
South China Sea
Samar
Pacific Ocean
VISAYAS
Palawan
Sulu Sea
MINDANAO
Legend:
Signal No. 4
Signal No. 3
Signal No. 2
Signal No. 1

SOURCE PAGASA INQGRAPHIC. ERNIE SAMBO



THE BATTLE this time is a desperate race against time and the elements for these soldiers who carry relief goods on foot across a highway to reach thousands of residents in Tanauan, Quezon. Landslides in the flood-hit towns of the province have made roads impassable to vehicles as they are clogged with boulders and debris. REUTERS

GMA braves weather to be with victims

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

DESPITE warnings from the Philippine Air Force of turbulent weather conditions, President Macapagal-Arroyo braved yesterday's strong winds and rains to reach out to victims of one of the towns hardest hit by Typhoon "Winnie" in Quezon province.

The President had reportedly insisted that she fly by helicopter to Siniloan town in Laguna, 75 km southeast of Manila, to cut on travel time to Quezon.

But an hour after lunch time, she relented and took the advice of her security personnel to go by land all the way. She arrived in Barangay Maragondon in Real, Quezon, by 4 p.m.

Initially, the President planned to spend the night in the typhoon-ravaged town, but

GMA BRAVES/ A22

Farmer buries dreams with first son

REAL, Quezon—Slash-and-burn farmer Richard Seles strained to hold back his tears as he dug a shallow grave for his infant son with a small shovel on a mountain pass.

On the muddy ground was a small, plastic-wrapped wooden box containing the body of the child, Seles' second, who was stillborn at the height of a landslide on Wednesday. The baby was also named Richard.

Seles, 37, had hoped to send him to university so he could help the small family earn a decent living instead of having to cut down trees in the hills and grow small plots of vegetables.

"He was my boy. I had wanted him to become successful. I had a lot of dreams for him. But the mountain has claimed him," Seles told Agence France-Presse as he sadly watched soldiers lower the coffin into the grave.

Other villagers had also buried three bodies dug out from under tons of rubble. Their identities were unknown.

A deadly mix of mud, floodwaters and boulders had crashed into Seles' hillside home in the village of Tanauan near Real on Wednesday as his young wife was in labor.

Extreme fear, exhaustion and the roaring, thunder-like scream of the moving ground had brought the baby on weeks before its due date, Seles said.

"She was terrified and it's the mountain that caused her to go into labor prematurely," said Se-

FARMER/ A22

STORIES FROM THE DEPTHS

AFP salutes barefoot soldier in muddied clothes

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

GENERAL NAKAR, Quezon—Army Sgt. Reynaldo Reyes reported on Tuesday to the chief of the Armed Forces' Southern Luzon Command barefoot and dressed in muddied short pants and shirt.

But despite Reyes' getup, a startling departure from the standard crisp fatigue uniform and shiny combat boots, Maj. Gen. Pedro Cabuay, chief of the Southern Luzon Command, not only returned the soldier's salute but also shook his hand in a display of admiration for his heroic deed.

According to the residents of Barangay Anuling in this ravaged town, Reyes had led his men in Charlie company of the 1st Infantry Brigade in saving the lives of a woman and two children living in one of the shanties lining the banks of the Agus River.

On Monday evening at the height of the fury of Tropical Depression "Winnie," the shanties collapsed as the ground loosened and caved in. The soldiers camped on a hilly portion of the village heard the residents' cries for help and rushed to the rescue.

"We raced against time," Reyes told reporters. He proceeded to narrate how, with their bare hands, he and his men furiously clawed at the muddy earth that buried the shanties'

AFP/ A22

Foreign gov'ts heed Red Cross appeal for help

By Tarra V. Quismundo and TJ Burgonio

THE PHILIPPINE National Red Cross yesterday appealed to the rest of the world for help as the country braced for yet another battering by Typhoon "Yoyong."

It said it would need an initial P56 million to provide relief to more than a million people affected by the three storms that slammed into the country in the past two weeks. And with the coming of Yoyong, the cost could run up to P100 million, it said.

"We have prepared P6 million just for relief, and that's really putting a strain on our resources," Sen. Richard Gordon, chair of the volunteer organization, said in a press conference at the PNRC headquarters in Manila.

The PNRC has fielded volunteers and distributed relief goods to families displaced by the re-

FOREIGN/ A4

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northern and Central Luzon and the provinces of Camarines, Quezon, Sorsogon, Albay, Marinduque, Batangas, Laguna, Cavite and Metro Manila will experience stormy weather. Eastern Visayas and the rest of Luzon excluding Palawan will have rains and gusty winds.

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/12/03/04 SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Stormy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Stormy
Baguio	Stormy	Roxas	Stormy
Tuguegarao	Stormy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Stormy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Stormy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Stormy	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Stormy	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

ESTRADA

Gov't lawyers move to stop Erap's HK trip

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan
and Armand Nocum

THE OMBUDSMAN and Special Prosecutor yesterday moved swiftly to prevent the departure of ousted President Estrada for Hong Kong even as the disgraced leader's lawyers were preparing a petition asking the Sandiganbayan to modify its order and allow Estrada to extend his medical stay in Hong Kong beyond Dec. 12.

Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo yesterday said he would ask the Sandiganbayan special division not to immediately implement its order allowing Estrada to go abroad, saying his office was entitled to file a motion for reconsideration.

Special Prosecutor Dennis Villa-Ignacio was expected yesterday to file a manifestation before the court to appeal the decision.

"There should not be special treatment for certain detained prisoners. And there's always the possibility of flight," said Marcelo, adding that court rules do not allow that kind of trip for Estrada who is being tried for the capital offense of plunder.

Marcelo said the prosecution has already proven that Estrada could very well have his knee surgery here as the country's top hospital has excellent facilities and "very competent doctors."

"So there's really no reason for the surgery to be done abroad. I hope they won't allow him to leave," he said.

Voting 4 to 1, the anti-graft court's special division late Wednesday approved a resolution allowing Estrada to travel to Hong Kong to have a knee replacement operation. He is allowed to stay there for 20 days, from Nov. 22 to Dec. 12, the dates that his lawyers originally requested.

But in a telephone interview, Jay Flaminiano, one of Estrada's lawyers, said they are considering asking the court to "modify" its order as the time given was "too short for an operation."

Out of Hong Kong

Ferdie Ramos, Estrada's media coordinator, said the problem was that Estrada's American doctor, Christoper Mow, who is to perform the operation, has left Hong Kong and returned to the US.

Mow had gone to Hong Kong in November to await the arrival of Estrada, who was originally scheduled for operation at the Hong Kong Adventist Hospital last Nov. 4.

But with the Sandiganbayan failing to approve the travel petition on time, Ramos said a new date has to be set for the operation.

"The schedule for the operation will all depend on the schedule of Dr. Mow," Ramos said.

Estrada was yesterday issued a regular passport, valid for a year, by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Foreign affairs spokesperson Gilberto Asuque said Estrada had made the request for a passport "just recently."

Malacañang welcomed the Sandiganbayan decision allowing Estrada to leave.

"We have always supported humanitarian treatment for the former President and we welcome the decision of the Sandiganbayan," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said in a statement.

Ms Arroyo has extended "humanitarian" gestures to Estrada, from advocating house arrest for him to giving him two golf carts so he could move around in his Tanay, Rizal estate where he is under house arrest.

'Mirror of oppression'

The President recognized that Estrada still commanded the loyalty of the Filipino masses because they see in his condition a "mirror of their own oppression."

The Sandiganbayan previously allowed Estrada to be detained at his lavish vacation estate instead of a regular detention center.

On Dec. 23, 2003, the court granted Estrada's request to undergo knee surgery in the United States. But Estrada, who claimed he risked paralysis if he did not undergo the procedure, allowed the three-month medical furlough to lapse. He said the US Embassy refused to give him a visa and that he found the $1 million cost of the US operation too high.

This time, Mow is charging only $55,000 in "estimated professional fees," Estrada's aides said.

According to a letter from Jeremy Low of the HK Adventist Hospital, Estrada's hospital bill has been set at $57,868 "for 18 days' hospital stay."

His private room at the hospital would cost $370 per night, and an apartment near the hospital, $154 per night.

In approving Estrada's petition, the four associate justices—Teresa Leonardo-De Castro, Francisco Villaruz, Efren de la Cruz and Teresita Diaz-Baldos—said they were adhering to the same reasons cited in the 2003 resolution, which they said "are presently existing [and] that should guide this court in exercising sound discretion."

'Baseless' petition

Presiding Justice Edilberto Sandoval, who also objected to the first travel permit, was the lone dissenter, arguing that Estrada's petition was "baseless."

Sandoval warned that the decision "would open a floodgate of petitions for the same relief all over the country from other accused similarly or better situated."

The court order stipulated that the 67-year-old Estrada post a P1-million bond and submit a personal undertaking that he recognizes the court's authority over him and that he will return to Manila after the surgery.

It also said that during the 20 days in Hong Kong Estrada remain confined at the Hong Kong Adventist Hospital "and not at any other place."

Four police officers are to escort Estrada "at all times" at Estrada's expense. *With reports from TJ Burgonio and Juliet Labog-Javellana*

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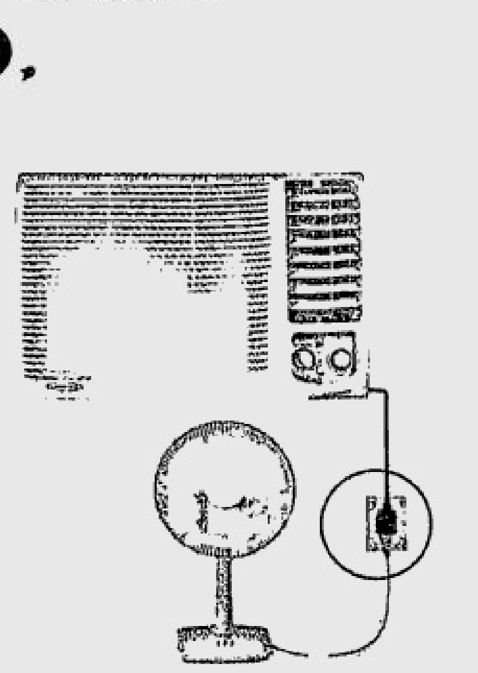

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OPERATION SAGIP BUHAY

Save lives, give to relief for typhoon victims

By Volt Contreras

A HUMANITARIAN mission that includes the INQUIRER is appealing for donations in cash, food items, medicines, clothes, beddings, cooking ware—or hopefully even the use of private helicopters that can speed up their delivery—for the thousands victimized by the series of storms that had hit Quezon, the Bicol region, and other parts of Luzon.

Government agencies, business groups, and civic organizations behind "Operation Sagip Buhay" are practically racing against time as super Typhoon "Yoyong" began pummeling last night almost the same areas ravaged by earlier storms "Winnie," "Violeta" and "Unding."

Sagip Buhay (Save Lives) is setting up a reception and packing center for donated goods at Camp Aguinaldo, and is also accepting cash or check contributions through Account No. 1328004263 at Equitable-PCI Bank, ADB-Ortigas branch.

Its immediate target is to ensure food supply for families trapped in flooded villages or crammed in evacuation centers—at least for the next 10 days.

Partners from the private sector include this paper, the Ayala Foundation, the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce, Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co., Smart, the Prelate of Infanta in Quezon, Unilab, Hands On Manila, the Assisi Foundation, and the Corporate Network for Disaster Response.

On the government side are the Office of Civil Defense and the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

The INQUIRER will provide updates on the movement of goods as well as their recipients. PLDT and Smart will help the Prelate of Infanta maintain contact between the isolated towns and relief workers.

In a meeting of Sagip partners hosted by the INQUIRER yesterday, DSWD Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Soliman said the public may also course their donations through church-based or civic organizations if they cannot personally bring them to Camp Aguinaldo.

"This is a moment when we as a country need again to rise up to the occasion," Soliman said.

SAGIP Buhay partners headed by Social Welfare Secretary Dinky Soliman plot strategy for humanitarian operation. JM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Citing the difficulty encountered by soldiers and volunteers in delivering relief goods, particularly to the isolated Quezon towns of Real and Infanta, CNDR chair Bertie Lim said big companies with choppers might as well lend their aircraft to Sagip Buhay.

Quoting DSWD estimates, Assisi Foundation president and former Ambassador Howard Dee said around 150,000 families may be affected by both Winnie and Yoyong.

"We will try to raise at least half of their (relief) requirements as a counterpart to what the government will provide," Dy said.

Aside from food, the DSWD said, the flood victims need blankets and sleeping mats, mosquito nets, clothes, medicines, water purifiers and jugs, stoves and kitchen utensils, tarpaulins and tents, toiletries, batteries, candles and matches.

CNDR's Lim said Sagip Buhay hopes to churn out a standard food pack containing the following: six kilos of rice, at least three pieces of canned goods, 1/2 kilo of mongo, 1 kilo sugar, 1/4 kilo of salt, a bar of detergent, a pint of cooking oil, and five gallons of drinking water.

Taipan Lucio Tan, president emeritus of the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce, donated 10,000 cases of mineral and distilled water and Ambassador Alfredo Yao, chair of Zesto, gave 10,000 packs of noodles. Robin Sy of the Binondo Disaster Fund Campaign, said cash donations have so far reached P2.5 million.

CNDR was formed in the aftermath of the 1990 Luzon killer earthquake and has since been active in disaster management and preparedness campaigns. Its members include some of the country's top corporations and business associations.

One member, Microsoft Philippines, for example, has already donated $8,000 for Winnie and Yoyong's victims, Lim said in an interview.

Lim also reported that in a meeting with Energy Secretary Vince Perez the other night, oil companies Shell and Petron and at least nine independent power producers pledged to fund the procurement of around 300,000 canned goods worth between P6 million and P7 million.

Four hospitals in Metro Manila—the Medical City, Cardinal Santos, Lourdes Hospital, and the Philippine General Hospital—have signified their willingness to send medical missions to the calamity areas, Lim added.

In the meeting, the Sagip partners noted the uniqueness of the unfolding tragedy: practically the same cluster of provinces got lashed by four successive storms in less than two weeks.

After Winnie, the third storm, the coping mechanisms of the local governments were already "overwhelmed and depleted," they noted.

Fr. Francis Lucas, former parish priest of Infanta, said Sagip will deliver the relief goods in waves but would allow the OCD to move in first to the affected areas.

Asked to assess the horrors that befell the town, Lucas said: "This is the worst disaster we've had, mostly because of the suddenness of the floods. Before, people could still laugh about it when it rains non-stop for two days. If ever there was flooding, the water would rise just up to the knee."

IN THE KNOW

Weather 101

IS A WEATHER disturbance a tropical storm, depression, typhoon or a cyclone?

Cyclone is the generic term which refers to a relatively small, intensely developed low pressure cell.

Combined with the tendency to drift sideways because of the earth's rotation, winds spin inward (like a circle) in a counterclockwise direction in the Northern Hemisphere and in a clockwise direction in the Southern Hemisphere.

When this low pressure system is formed in the tropics, it is called a tropical cyclone. Outside of the tropics, it is called extra-tropical cyclone.

Bagyo is the current name in the Philippines for a tropical cyclone. Tropical cyclones are also called hurricanes, tropical depressions, tropical storms and typhoons depending upon intensity.

A tropical cyclone that has matured to a severe intensity is called a hurricane when it occurs in the Atlantic Ocean or adjacent seas.

It is called a typhoon when it occurs in the Pacific Ocean area, the China Sea or adjacent seas; a willy-nilly around Australia; or simply a cyclone or tropical cyclone when it occurs in the Indian Ocean region.

Pagasa says a tropical cyclone is a typhoon if it has winds that exceed 118 kph. It is a super typhoon if it carries winds of more than 185 km per hour (or Storm Signal No. 4, see below). Less intense than typhoons are tropical depressions and storms.

An encyclopedia defines a storm as a marked disturbance in the normal state of the atmosphere with strong winds as its most prominent characteristic. It says that it is also used for other types of weather disturbance, including thunderstorms, rainstorms, sand storms, etc.

But what Pagasa calls a storm is a tropical cyclone that packs winds of 64 to 118 kph. Less intense than a storm is called a tropical depression, which has winds that do not exceed 63 kph.

Tropical depressions are most common in the region of the equatorial or intertropical convergence zones.

The intertropical convergence zone, a term often used in Pagasa weather bulletins, refers to the axis or the dividing line of two belts of wind from the Northern Hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere, which are blowing constantly as they move toward the equator from the eastern side.

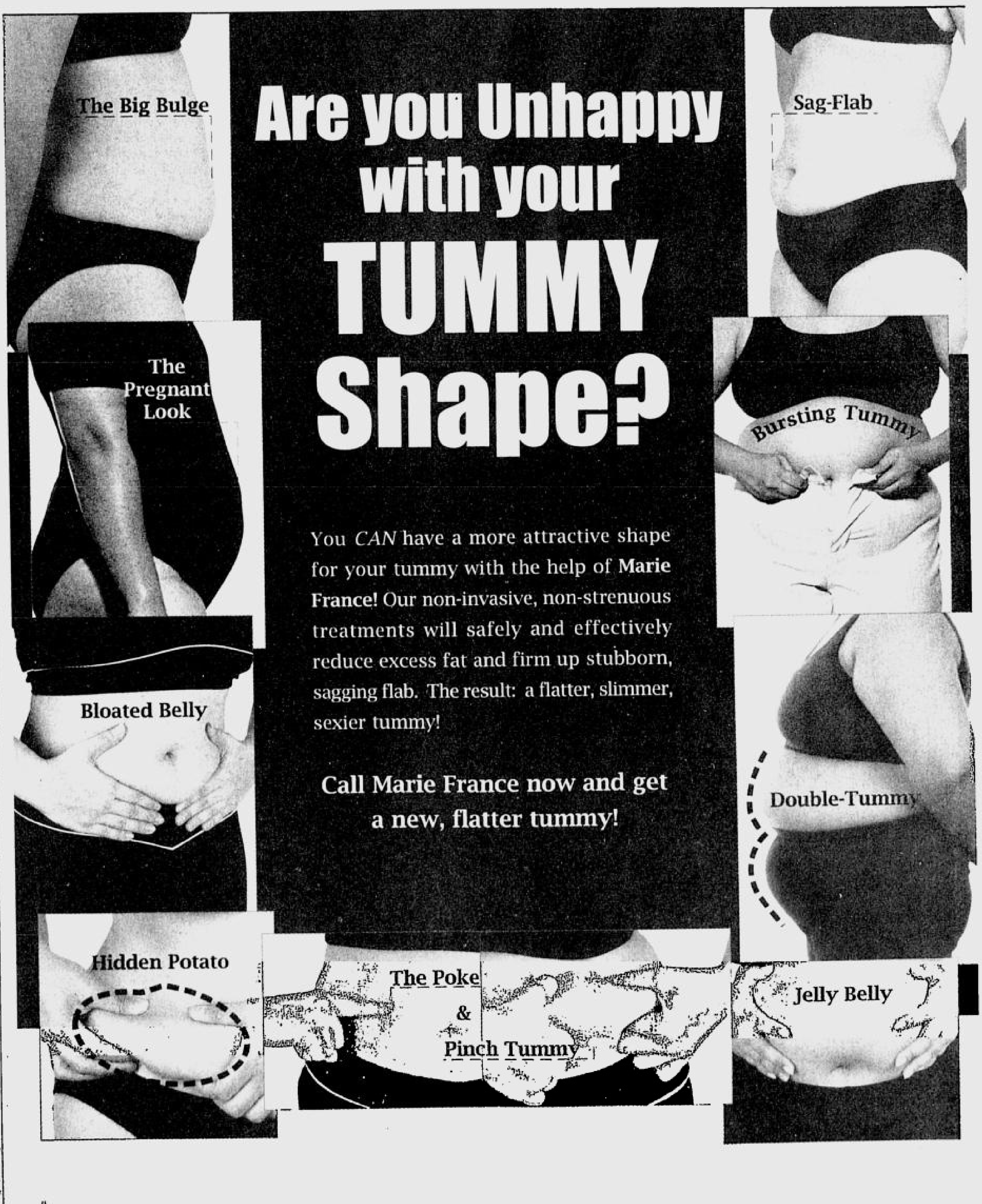
Other terms that refer to weather disturbances include:

Thunderstorm: Weather disturbance that produces thunder and lightning aside from wind and rain.

Tornado: A violently rotating column of air that reaches from the base of a cloud to the ground (in funnel shape) and made visible by condensation and debris. In other areas it is called a violent thundersquall. The diameter of a tornado varies from a few feet to a mile; the rotating winds may attain velocities of 320 to 480 kph. A tornado is usually accompanied by thunder, lightning, heavy rain, and a loud "freight train" noise.

Although tornadoes have occurred on every continent except Antarctica, they are most common in the United States, especially in what is known as Tornado Alley, which is usually understood to include the plains from north central Texas, north to the Dakotas, with the peak frequency located in Oklahoma. Tornadoes occurring over water are called waterspouts. ***PDI Research***

Sources: Pag-asa, PDI archives and http://www.infoplease.com/



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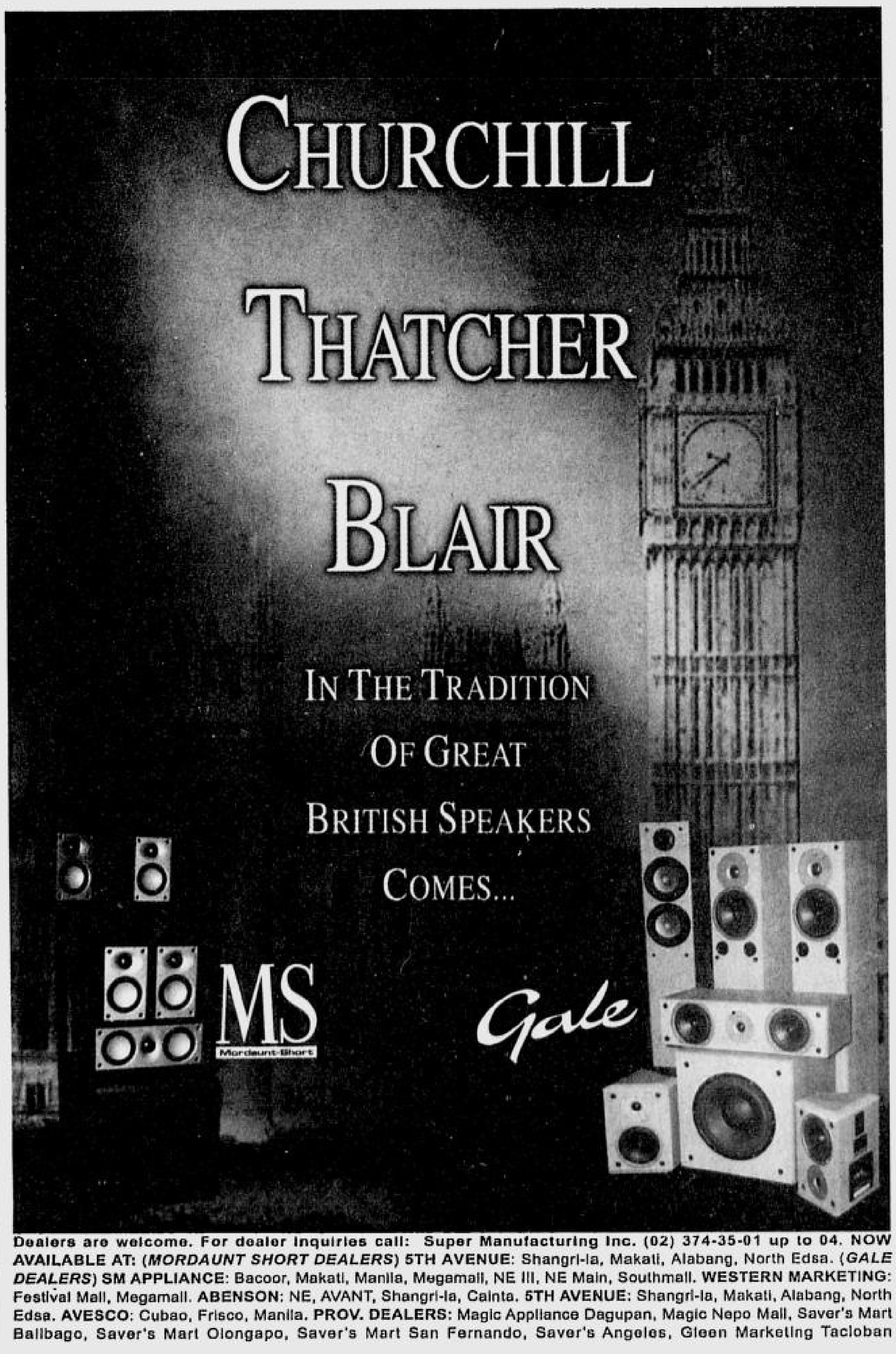

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Foreign gov'ts heed Red Cross appeal

From page A1

cent storms. But with the sheer number of people in need, it is now seeking foreign aid.

"The International Red Cross community will listen when we say we are announcing an international request for assistance," Gordon said.

Spain was among the first to heed the PNRC's call. It donated P4.2 million worth of relief goods, which would soon be distributed to families in Central and Southern Luzon and the Bicol region.

"Spain is in shock over the tragic news in the Philippines. The King (Juan Carlos) has sent a message to President Macapagal-Arroyo expressing his condolences, sympathy and solidarity," said Spanish Ambassador Ignacio Sagaz.

Gordon said the International Federation of the Red Cross had given P2.2 million worth of relief assistance, and private companies a pledge of P2.5 million in cash.

Reorientation

Gordon said the hard-hit towns in Quezon were still inaccessible.

"Right now, we'll just have to sit and wait until the typhoon is finished, and hopefully, the weather clears, hopefully, the seas calm down a bit, so we can send immediately relief supplies," he said.

The senator also called for a "reorientation" in the way the government was handling disasters. While saying that he was not finger-pointing, he said the government could do better than just providing assistance every time a calamity hit.

"I'm not going to say this is a wake-up call because we've already had nightmares and we were never roused. Here we are seeing a phenomenon where we are being made to pay for our rapacity of Mother Nature. We can prevent this," he said.

Later in an interview, Gordon said: "We have always been reactive. Now let us be proactive. Government should initiate programs to tell us, based on the geology of certain areas that have been logged over, are these places safe, can we move these people out, or if we cannot move them, can we have a protocol on how to tell them that when it rains, we have to move out?"

Crisis management

An ad hoc crisis management task force has been put up in Manila to assist the displaced families, the United Nations said.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (Ocha) and the UN Children's Fund have pledged emergency funds, while the UN Development Program has requested a further grant of $100,000.

"Many people have been stranded on rooftops, and Ocha reported that rubber boats, tents, food and drinking water were urgently needed," the UN said in a statement.

The US Embassy announced that it would grant the PNRC $100,000 to address the immediate needs of the victims.

"The United States and the American Embassy in Manila are very concerned for the welfare of the people who are suffering from these natural disasters," US press attaché Karen Kelley said in a statement.

"We continue to be in communication with the Philippine government to determine how we can best assist the people of the Philippines," she said.

The funds, provided by the US Agency for International Development on the embassy's request, will be immediately turned over to the PNRC. These will be used to procure and distribute relief goods to the victims, Kelley said.

US military resources

On top of the grant, she said, the embassy's Joint US Military Assistance Group had begun coordinating with the defense department's Civil Defense Office and the Armed Forces to assess and determine US military resources that could be provided to further support the disaster assistance efforts.

The Japanese Embassy said its government would provide 28 million yen worth of emergency aid for the rescue and relief operations in at least eight provinces.

The aid, consisting of generators, cables, plastic containers, water purification units, water tanks and tents, were expected to arrive last night and would be delivered to the National Disaster Coordinating Council, the embassy said.

Aurora, Bulacan, Cagayan Valley, Camarines Sur, Oriental Mindoro, Quezon, Nueva Ecija and Palawan have been identified as the worst-hit provinces.

The embassy also expressed sympathy and condolences to the typhoon victims on behalf of the government and people of Japan.

Local banks help

In a statement, Metrobank and the Metrobank Foundation announced it would donate P2 million to the victims. Of the amount, P1 million will be coursed through the GMA Kapuso Foundation and P1 million through selected Metrobank branches in severely hit areas in the provinces of Aurora, Quezon, Nueva Ecija and Bulacan.

Metrobank volunteers will also help in the turnover and distribution of relief goods in coordination with the bank's branches and local government units.

Twelve energy-related companies have pledged P8 million worth of canned goods and bottled water.

Through the 14-year-old Corporate Network for Disaster Response, Petron Corp., Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp., Shell Philippines Exploration BV (Spex) Foundation, Philippine National Oil Co. Energy Development Corp., Quezon Power Philippines Ltd., Unocal Philippines Inc., National Transmission Corp., CalEnergy, Mirant Philippines Corp., CBK Power, First Gas Power Corp. and TMR all promised to do their share in providing assistance to the typhoon victims nationwide.

US flag carrier Northwest Airlines also pledged blankets for the victims.

Fund raising

The Archdiocese of Cotabato has started raising funds for the typhoon victims.

Cotabato Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, OMI, and Fr. Ben Torreto, DCC, director of the Archdiocesan Justice and Peace desk, aired an appeal over the Church-run Radio dxMS calling on all parishioners to offer financial assistance to be forwarded to the Prelature of Infanta in Quezon.

One of the victims of Tropical Depression "Winnie" was Fr. Charles Colendres, a native of Midsayap, Cotabato, and a classmate of most of the diocesan priests in Cotabato City.

"Let us lend a helping hand," Quevedo told parishioners.

"At this point, they need our help. Now is the time to share some of our blessings with our less fortunate brothers," Torreto said.

Good Samaritans were advised to drop off their "help" at the Archbishop's Palace or at radio station dxMS in Cotabato City.

Relief trucks

Yesterday morning, three military trucks loaded with relief goods left AFP Southern Luzon Command headquarters in Camp Nakar, Quezon, to bring help to thousands of victims in the northern part of the province.

Earlier in the day, Quezon Gov. Wilfrido Enverga arrived in Barangay Maragondon, the farthest point that the vehicles could reach but still 20 km away from Real.

He said he had traveled with three dump trucks loaded with relief goods. "I have with me the machinery of the provincial government to help ease the sufferings of the calamity victims," he said over the phone.

Enverga said he had brought noodles, rice, sardines, clothes and blankets, among other things, as well as a van full of assorted medicines.

Mely Jabola, technical assistant of President Macapagal-Arroyo for Quezon, supervised the preparation of the relief goods at the office of the AFP-Civil Military Relations Group in Camp Nakar.

Jabola said they had prepared 1,000 packs of assorted goods donated by nongovernment and civic organizations in nearby towns. The Quezon Disaster Coordinating Council delivered another 3,000 packs to Camp Nakar.

Really hungry

Local officials of the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. branch also delivered a truckload of relief goods.

Army soldiers escorted the convoy bearing the relief goods.

Maj. Ramon Rosario, deputy chief of the AFP-CRS in Camp Nakar, accompanied the troops.

He said they were able to pass through Maragondon and reach the next village of Tanauan.

"The moment the residents received their packs of relief goods, they rushed back to their homes to cook the food. They were really hungry," Rosario said in a phone interview. *With reports from Abigail L. Ho in Manila; Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau; Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Corrections

THE PHOTO of a megamouth shark being carried by 16 men that appeared on Page A1 of the Nov. 16 issue was wrongly credited to the World Wide Fund-Philippines. The photo was taken by Dr. Doris Bagarinao of Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center.

* * *

IN BOXED data titled "Effects of 7 destructive typhoons out of 23 from January to November 25, 2004" on Page A17 of the Dec. 1 issue, damage to private property should have been P117.48 million not P117.48 billion.

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to Gerry Lirio, city editor, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City; fax Nos. 897-4793/94; e-mail addresses:glirio@inquirer.com.ph and daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent to Raul Palabrica, readers' advocate, the same address and fax numbers as those of the city editor, and e-mail address:rpalabrica@inquirer.com.ph.

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ENERVON SYRUP 500ML	276.50	262.70
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NUTROPLEX SYRUP 120ML	109.25	103.80
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UNITED TIKI DROPS 30ML	51.75	49.15
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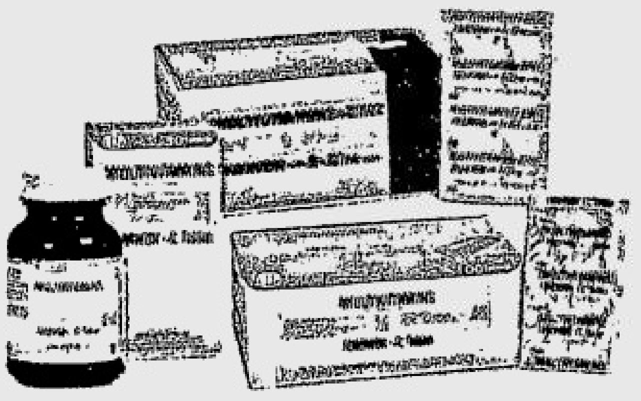

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Cell phone rates to rise with franchise tax hike

By Cynthia D. Balana

MOBILE phone rates would rise should Congress and the executive branch push through with the imposition of a 5- to 7-percent franchise tax on telecommunication firms in order to raise much-needed revenues for the government.

Globe Telecommunications senior vice president Rodolfo Salalima yesterday told a joint House committee hearing that the tax would result in a corresponding increase in phone rates that would be passed on to consumers.

"We believe that with the additional imposition, there would be an increase in rates. It's an inevitable consequence," Salalima said.

At present, telecom firms charge a 10-percent value-added tax (VAT) on mobile phone rates. The franchise tax would be on the windfall profits of the firms.

"All taxes paid by telecommunication companies are considered part of operating costs which are passable to consumers," Salalima said.

Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman thought the executive branch was singling out telecom firms simply because they were making good money.

But Finance Undersecretary Grace Pulido-Tan said that because of the fiscal crisis the government was facing, it had to find ways to raise revenues quickly.

"Telecommunication companies are very buoyant, meaning they have a lot to spare. And since the industry is robust... we're counting on them to raise funds," Tan said.

No choice

She said it was the same case with the "sin" taxes the government wants to raise on cigarettes and alcohol products, for which legislation is pending in the Senate after it was passed by the House.

Lagman asked if this was fair to the telecom firms just because they were making a lot of money. Tan answered the government had no choice.

"I don't think it's fair but we've also some good reasons to impose taxes on services rendered by telecommunication companies," she said.

Lagman then asked if there was a constitutional provision that prohibited companies from passing on their taxes to consumers.

Salalima replied that there had been jurisprudence such as in the case of Meralco, which was ordered by the Supreme Court last year to refund to its customers the amount it had charged them to pay for the power firm's taxes.

But Tarlac Rep. Jesli Lapus, ways and means committee chair, said it would be impossible to stop companies from passing on costs to consumers.

"I don't think that can be legislated. It's a business decision. They could decide to absorb or pass this [tax] on to consumers," Lapus said.

He, however, said that any increase would still have to be approved by the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) which hears rate hike requests.

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Forum on abuse of women today

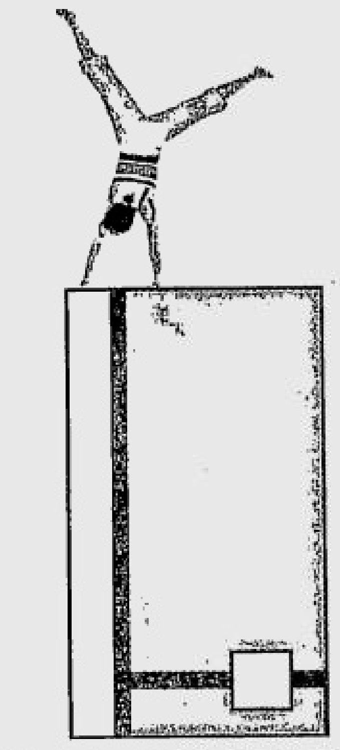
A FORUM tackling the implementing rules and regulations of a new law that considers abuse of women in intimate relations and their children a crime opens today at the University of the Philippines College of Law auditorium.

The forum, sponsored by the Philippine National Committee of the Unit' Nations Development Fund for Women (Unifem) and the UP Center for Women's Studies (UPCWS), aims to increase public awareness of Republic Act 9262.

Supreme Court Associate Justice Adolf Azcuna, who is currently a member of the high court's gender committee, will speak on the judiciary's role in the implementation of the law and in ensuring gender justice.

Like other gender committees in government offices, the high court's gender committee works to promote equality between men and women and make development programs gender-sensitive, as well as remove barriers to the just treatment of women and their children.

The UP College of Law, College of Mass Communication and University Student Council are co-sponsors of the forum, which starts at 9 a.m. today.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Mayors get ₱1-M advance from IRA

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday gave some town mayors an early Christmas present—P1 million apiece—in the form of an advance of their Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) for 2005.

The P1 million, however, would only go to mayors who had earlier offered to forgo half of the 10-percent increase in their IRAs to help the government overcome its financial problems.

President Arroyo thanked the mayors in a speech she delivered at the 14th general assembly of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines at the Manila Hotel yesterday.

"This [was] purely voluntary, but for those who [would] help us in this way, in return you will get a release of P1 million of the 2005 IRA," Ms Arroyo told the mayors.

She expressed the hope that the mayors would spend the P1 million on programs of her 10-point legacy agenda.

"I also want to thank the mayors who have been going to the congressmen and the senators that you helped get elected [to ask them] to fast-track the revenue measures needed by our country," Ms Arroyo said.

Malacañang did not say how many town mayors had opted to forgo the annual 10-percent increase in their IRA.

The LMP groups the country's 1,495 municipal mayors.

There is a separate League of Cities, composed of all city mayors, and a League of Provinces, to which all governors belong.

Ms Arroyo said the municipal mayors could look forward to another reward if the tax measures she had proposed to Congress were enacted soon.

"Because you have been campaigning with them and because of their own sense of urgency and patriotism, I am confident that Congress will pass the revenue measures we have forwarded, which will mean that, hopefully, your towns may not need to take the IRA cuts after all," she said.

At the close of the assembly, the LMP passed a manifesto of support for the President's 10-point agenda in her new six-year term.

The 10-point program includes the creation of six million jobs; more classrooms and more scholarships for the poor; balancing the budget, water and electricity for every barangay; the decongestion of Metro Manila, and the linking of the entire country through transportation and digital infrastructure.

"We hereby commit ourselves, our municipalities and our constituents to actively work for the implementation and realization of the Ten-Point Agenda of the government," read the manifesto signed by Mayors Ramon Guico Jr. and Gerardo Calderon, national president and secretary general, respectively, of the LMP.

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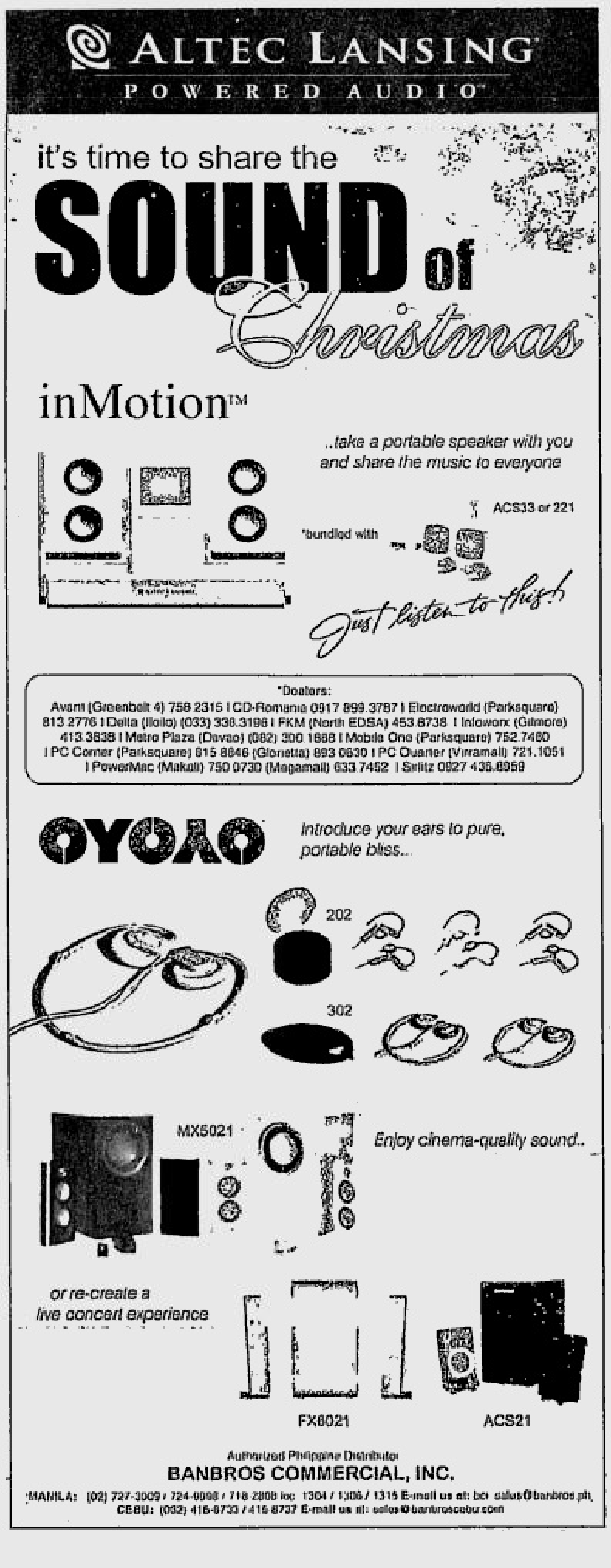
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Indon cleric gave speech to terror trainees, court told

JAKARTA—An Indonesian militant said Thursday that alleged terrorist leader Abu Bakar Bashir gave a speech at a ceremony held in 2000 by the Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) extremist group in the southern Philippines.

Yudi Lukito, a self-confessed JI member, said at Bashir's trial that the elderly cleric conveyed a message of Muslim brotherhood at the ceremony at Camp Abu Bakar, which was run by the Philippine rebel group, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), on Mindanao island.

"In one ceremony, he made the closing speech which was about brotherhood among Muslims and the need to help each other. He was not the commander there. He came as a guest," Lukito, 30, told the court as Bashir sat impassively with his lawyers.

Prosecutors say Bashir, as JI chief, visited a rebel military training camp in April 2000 and relayed a "ruling from Osama bin Laden which permitted attacks and killings of Americans and their allies."

Judges asked Lukito to take a closer look at Bashir, who was sitting with his lawyers in the South Jakarta court, to see if he was the same person.

Lukito said Bashir looked younger in 2000.

Bashir, 66, denied he made a trip to the Philippines in 2000. "In 2000 I was in Indonesia and I didn't go anywhere," he told the court.

At the Philippine gathering, Bashir was flanked by senior JI members Mustofa and Mohammad Nasir bin Abbas, Lukito said.

Lukito, who is serving a jail term for weapons possession in East Java, said he spent a year and a half learning military skills in Mindanao.

Bashir, an Islamic cleric, is accused of inciting followers to carry out the October 2002 Bali nightclub bombings, in which 202 people died, and of plotting last year's attack on the Jakarta Marriott hotel, in which 12 were killed.

If found guilty he could face a death sentence.

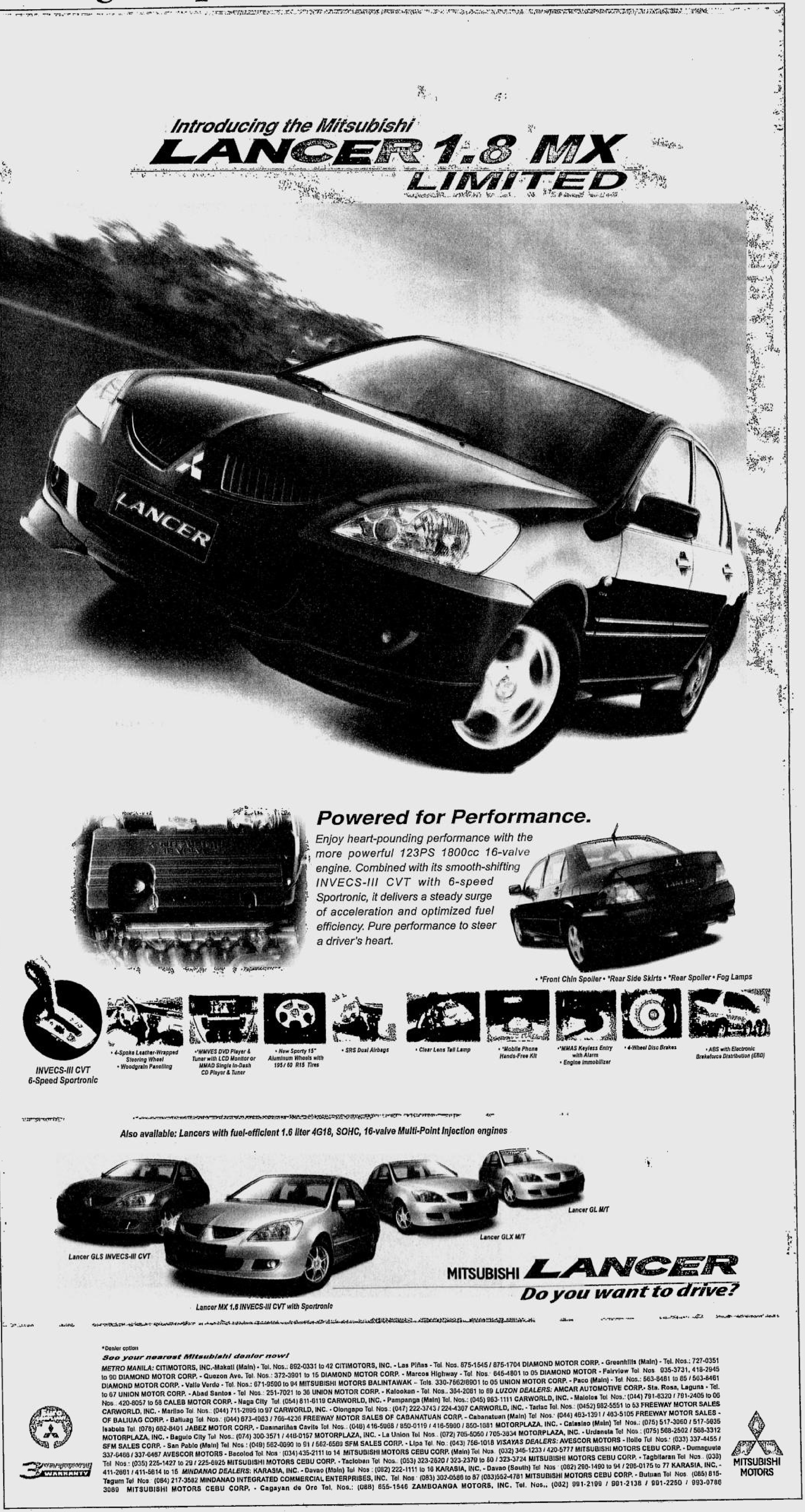
Foreign governments say Bashir led the al-Qaida-linked JI, which is blamed for the Bali and Marriott blasts, a suicide bombing outside the Australian embassy in September and a string of other attacks.

An Indonesian court last year cleared the cleric of leading the group, which seeks to create an Islamic fundamentalist state in Southeast Asia. But police say they have new evidence of his role in the JI.

The cleric was arrested a week after the Bali blasts and has remained in detention ever since. Prosecutors have said in their indictment that he orchestrated the Marriott bombing from his cell.

Bashir has described the indictment as "legal fiction" and said he had nothing to gain from acts of terrorism since they would only fuel interference in Indonesia by Washington.

Bashir also has consistently denied links to terrorism and insists JI does not exist. *AFP, Reuters*



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3 Kuwaiti cops acquitted in Pinay's rape

KUWAIT—Kuwait's Appeals Court has acquitted three Kuwaiti policemen convicted of raping a Filipina housemaid inside a police station and sentenced to serve varying jail terms, judicial sources said on Wednesday.

The sources said the court on Tuesday threw out a lower court's June ruling that the three policemen had raped the maid in a cell at Sabah al-Salem police station in the capital. Local newspapers had said the maid was raped after escaping from her sponsor's home late last year.

One of the men had been sentenced to 15 years jail while the other two got 10 years each, they said.

The court gave no explanation for its decision and judicial sources said details are expected in about 10 days.

But defense lawyer Fahad al-Habaini said he believed the court had doubts on the authenticity of the maid's allegations.

"They deserved to be declared innocent right from the start, based on what's in the case papers, even based on the medical reports submitted by the plaintiff," Habaini added.

Philippine Embassy officials in Kuwait City were not immediately available for comment.

Kuwaiti English language daily Arab Times said the three men had denied the allegation despite a report by the criminal evidences department showing the woman had been raped on the day of the incident last year.

Reuters

Reenactment of '04 budget looms—Villar

THE GOVERNMENT will operate on a reenacted budget, but only for the first few months of 2005.

With only about two weeks left before Congress adjourns for the Christmas break, there is no way that marathon or special sessions would give the Senate ample time to pass the measure this month, said Sen. Manuel Villar, chair of the Senate finance committee.

"It is almost certain that the country will operate on a reenacted budget at least for the first few months of the new year," Villar said in a phone interview.

He noted that the House of Representatives, after four months of delay, approved the proposed P907.6-billion national budget for next year only on second reading on Wednesday.

The measure will have to be approved by the lower chamber on third and final reading before it goes to the Senate.

"At the earliest, we may get it by late next week," said Villar.

This means the government will operate on the P804-billion 2003 budget for at least two months in 2005.

Though he is opposed to using the 2003 budget again, Villar said he agreed to a partial reenactment because of the time constraints.

"It is ridiculous to have a reenacted budget for three consecutive years," he said.

Another reenacted budget was like a "blank check" given to President Macapagal-Arroyo, he added.

Villar said his committee would work double-time to pass the 2005 budget measure by the end of January.

According to the Senate's timetable, the senators would need at least a month to review and scrutinize the budget bill.

Michael Lim Ubac

Gov't told to comment on new bid for Ninoy slay retrial

THE SUPREME Court has ordered state lawyers to comment on a petition for yet another trial on the 1983 assassinations of opposition senator Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr. and his alleged assassin, Rolando Galman.

The SC en banc told Solicitor General Alfredo Benipayo and Special Prosecutor Dennis Villa-Ignacio on Wednesday to submit their opinion within 10 days.

The high court has not scheduled any oral argument on the petition of the Public Attorney's Office seeking a reopening of the double-murder case, said Chief Justice Hilario Davide when interviewed in the sidelines of a forum in Makati City yesterday.

On Nov. 24 Chief Public Attorney Persida Rueda-Acosta asked the SC to reopen the celebrated case, claiming they have new forensic evidence and a new defense witness to exonerate the 15 Aviation Security Command (Avsecom) soldiers convicted in 1991.

Acosta said a group of independent forensic experts was able to prove that it was Galman, and not C1C Rogelio Moreno, who shot the senator.

Galman was gunned down by Avsecom soldiers right after Aquino was shot on Aug. 21, 1983.

Dona Pazzibugan

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Japan offers leniency to illegals who leave voluntarily

TOKYO—Japan began Thursday to offer leniency to illegal immigrants who leave voluntarily as part of a campaign aimed at halving the number of foreigners lacking proper documents in the country, authorities said.

Some 90 people queued up at the Tokyo Immigration Office to take advantage of the provision, which trims to one from five years the time illegal residents are barred from reentering Japan if they turned themselves in, public broadcaster NHK said.

"I came here because I want to come back to Japan after one year," one Chinese man told NHK.

A woman from the Philippines told the station she showed up saying, "I would face a penalty if I was caught."

The amended law, which took effect Thursday, also eliminated detention for foreigners who overstayed their visas, provided they have not committed serious crimes.

At the same time, the maximum fine for illegal entry was raised to three million yen ($29,000) from 300,000 yen. Illegals deported for the second time or more would be banned from reentry for 10 years instead of five years.

Those caught overstaying without turning themselves in would still be barred from reentering Japan for five years.

The government has been trying to halve the number of illegal aliens in Japan from the current level of 250,000 by December 2008, an immigration spokeswoman said.

Government studies have said Japan needed to open up to a large number of immigrants to ensure a sufficient labor force as the country has one of the world's lowest birth rates.

But mass immigration is seen as meeting public opposition, with surveys showing most Japanese attribute a rise in crime to foreigners.

Japan has since 1967 encouraged foreigners with certain sought-after skills, such as engineers and academics, to work in the country, but denies visas to unskilled laborers. *AFP*

GMA to keynote education congress

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo will be the keynote speaker in the 1st National ICTs in Basic Education Congress on Dec. 6-7 at the Waterfront Hotel in Lahug, Cebu City.

The congress is being organized by the Foundation for Information Technology Education and Development (FIT-ED) and the Department of Education, in partnership with the University of the Philippines-Open University and the Cebu-based Coalition for Better Education. FIT-ED, chaired by Ambassador Roberto R. Romulo, is a nongovernment organization which aims to increase IT awareness in the Philippines and contribute to the efforts of enabling Philippine society for the information age.

Expected to attend the Congress are some 800 to 1,000 public and private school teachers and administrators. The Congress' main objective is to awaken the minds of local educators to the benefits of using technology as a tool for teaching and learning.

Major corporate sponsors for the event include the Coca-Cola Export Corporation, Equitable-PCI Bank and PLDT/Smart Communications. Other corporate sponsors include CISCO Systems, Intel, Microsoft Philippines, the Philippine Daily Inquirer, IBM, Innove Communications, Petron, Aboitiz 1, Nestle and Contel Communications. Also helping fund this event are the office of Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr., the Commission on Information and Communication Technology (CICT) and the Center for Industrial Technology and Enterprise (CITE).

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Friday, December 3, 2004
1st Week of Advent

1st Reading: Is 29:17-24
Gospel: Mt 9:27-31

As Jesus moved on from Capernaum, two blind men followed him, shouting, "Son of David, help us!" When he was about to enter the house, the blind men caught up with him, and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do what you want?" They answered, "Yes, sir!"

Then Jesus touched their eyes and said, "As you have believed, so let it be." And their eyes were opened. Then Jesus gave them a stern warning, "Be careful and let no one know about this." But as soon as they went away, they spread the news about him through the whole area.

Commentary

St. Jerome (347-420 AD) said about this healing, "The miracles that had gone before (raising the official's daughter to life, and curing the woman with the issue of blood) are now followed by the healing of two blind men, so that what death and disease had witnessed, blindness might witness now." And he could have added that it is followed by the healing of the dumb demoniac.

It seems to say that the word of God is able to penetrate all our barriers. In a famous passage in his Confessions, St. Augustine wrote, "You called me; you cried aloud to me; you broke through my barrier of deafness. You shone upon me; your radiance enveloped me; you put my blindness to flight. You shed your fragrance about me; I drew breath and now I gasp for you. I tasted you, and now I hunger and thirst for you. You touched me and I burned for your peace" (Book X, 27). Notice that he uses all five senses. This is normal in Augustine's writing: he is like an organist who uses the full range of the instrument.

We are God's imperfect instruments; many of the reeds and pipes and pallets are broken or missing. But the Lord is working on us: one day, we hope, we will fill the world with God's praise.

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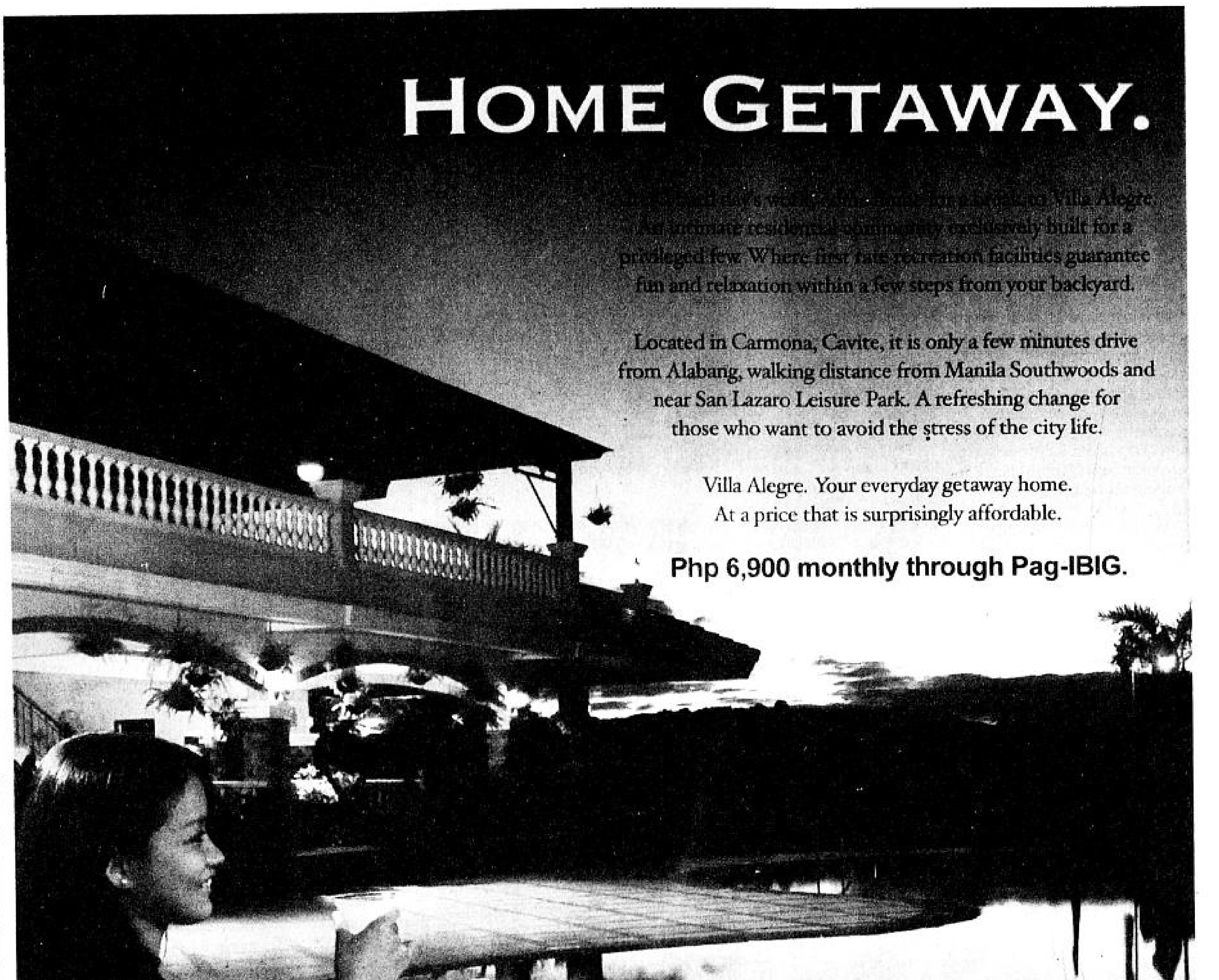
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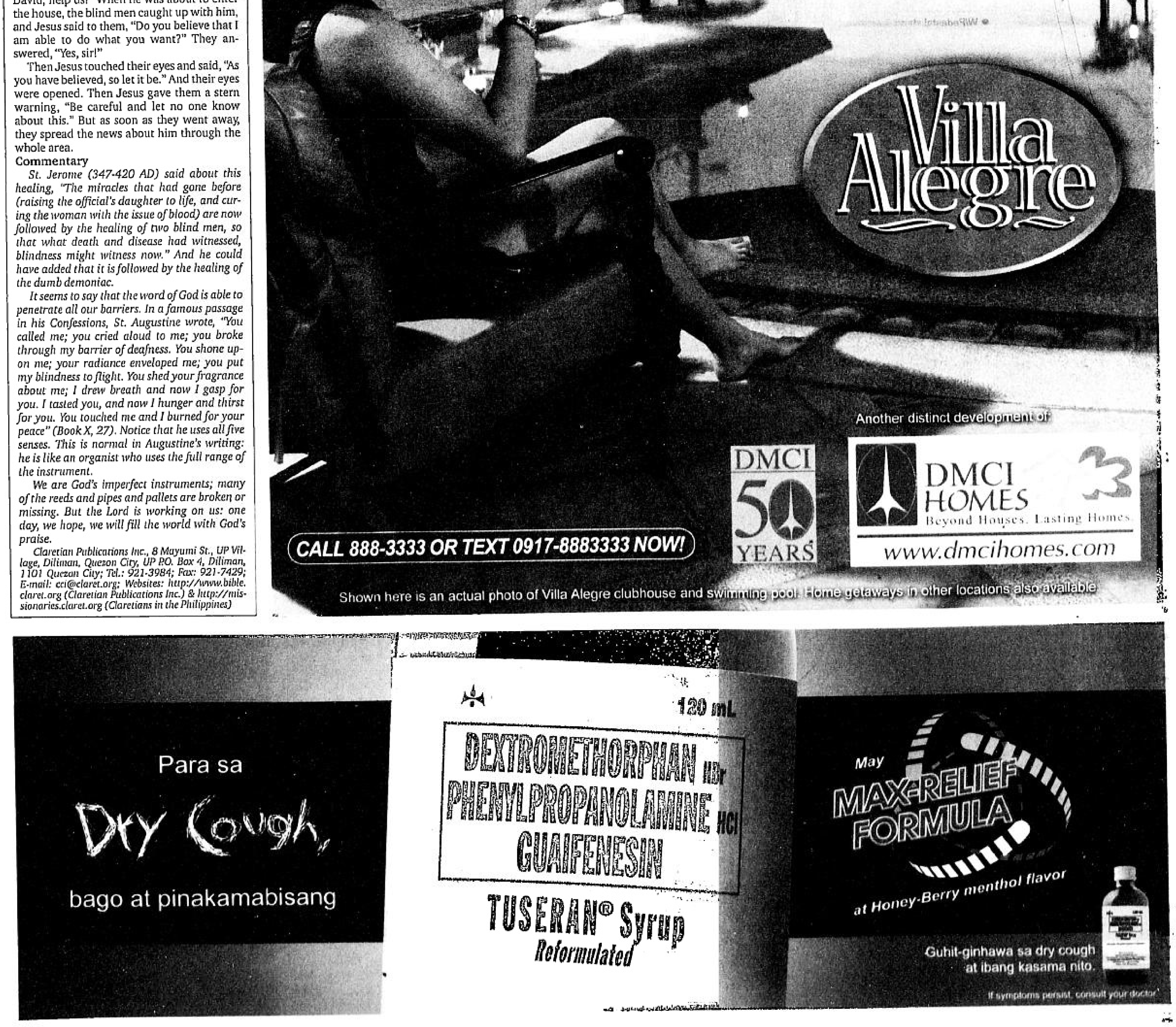
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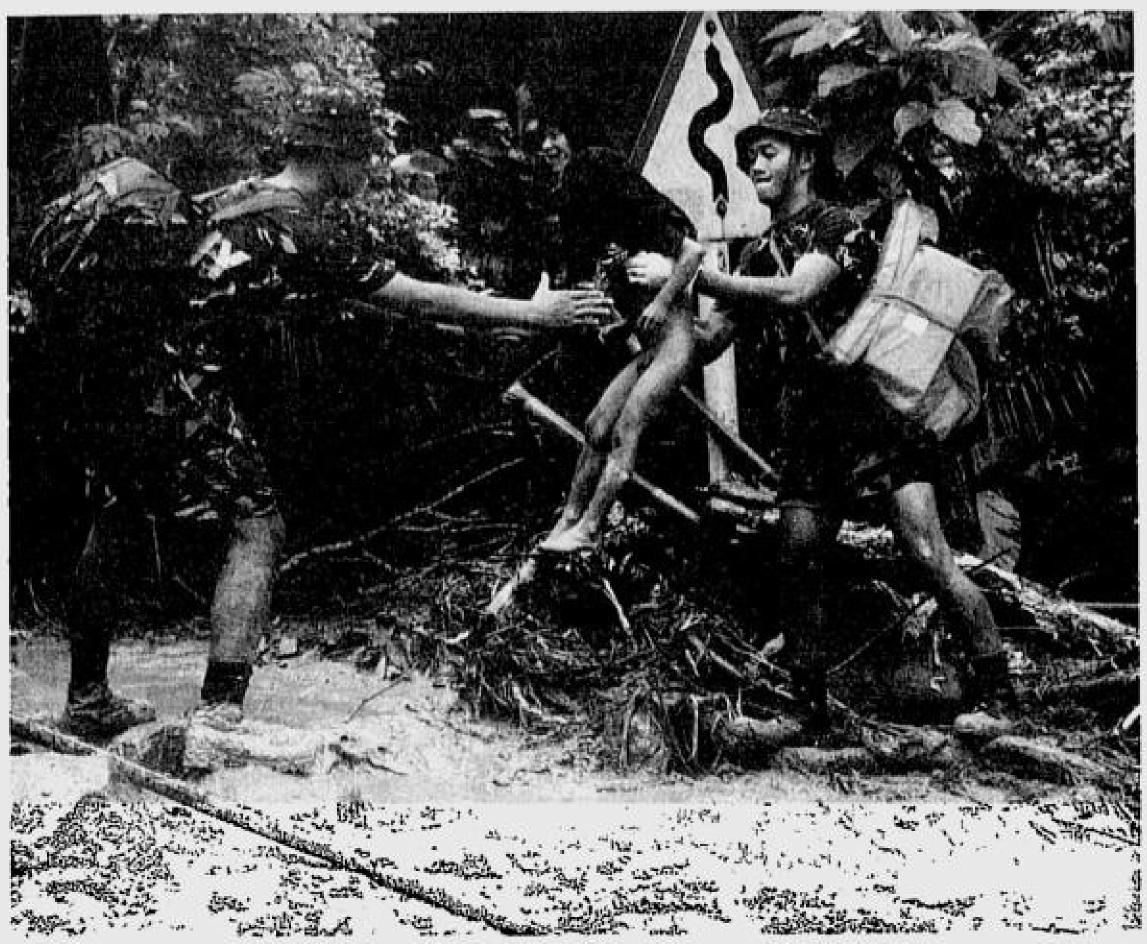
'Yoyong' slams Luzon

From page A1



SEARCH and rescue operations conducted by Army soldiers near the town of Real, Quezon, recover a naked boy shivering in the cold.

AFP

Union and Ilocos Sur.

The typhoon's speed would have it pass through the country in a relatively short time, according to Nathaniel Cruz, branch chief of the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa). "It will destroy everything in its path but it won't last a while," Cruz said yesterday afternoon.

Yoyong should be in the South China Sea by 8 a.m. today, he said. It was forecast to be 330 km west northwest of Laoag, Ilocos Sur, by this afternoon.

"We can't let our guard down just because the typhoon is already out of the country (by 8 a.m.). We still have to worry about wind-caused landslides, especially since the typhoon's winds must have already swept considerable vegetation in the mountains," Cruz said.

Scores have been reported missing and more than 160,000 people fled to higher ground or crowded into schools and town halls. Thousands of passengers were stranded in various ports in Southern Luzon and the Visayas.

A landslide in Sipocot, Camarines Sur, closed the Maharlika Highway to traffic at about 2 p.m., affecting travel between Bicol and Metro Manila.

A tidal wave hit the island town of Panukulan in northern Quezon yesterday, reported the Kabalikat Civicom radio group in Real town.

Classes, offices suspended

Press Secretary Bunye said President Macapagal-Arroyo had ordered classes in all levels and work in government offices suspended today in Metro Manila and in Regions 2, 3, 4 and 5.

As the typhoon battered Bicol, at least 15,866 people were evacuated in the region.

In Siruma, Camarines Sur, at least two fishermen were reported missing while three of their companions had been found in Calabanga, according to the Office of Civil Defense (OCD).

"There are other reported missing persons in Camarines Sur and Catanduanes but we don't know yet if typhoon Yoyong was the cause," OCD regional director Arnel Capilii told the INQUIRER.

The OCD in Bicol said that in Albay alone, 4,153 persons were evacuated to elementary schools.

In Catanduanes, particularly Virac, Bato and Bagamanoc, 957 persons were evacuated, and in Camarines Sur, 9,500. Earlier, 1,281 evacuees were reported in the towns of Calabanga, Canaman, Magarao, Milaor, Sangay and Bato.

Power cut

Electricity was cut in Catanduanes as of 6 a. m. yesterday, while certain areas in Albay, the Camarines provinces and Sorsogon experienced power outages.

Areas affected by flash floods were Tabaco, Malinao and those located at the foot of Mayon.

In Central Luzon, floods caused by "Winnie" killed 16 more people and drowned 90 carabaos in three towns in Nueva Ecija, disaster officials said. So far, 48 people have died from floods and landslides while 101 people were missing, according to the Department of Social Welfare and Development regional office.

Stranded passengers in the different ports of Bicol numbered 1,837. In Matnog alone, a total of 1,000 passengers have been stranded since 5 a.m. yesterday. In Pilar, 475; Tabaco, 250; Virac, 25; Bulan, 30; Sabang, Camarines Sur, 30, and Masbate, 50.

More than 650 passengers were stranded at the Batangas International Port, said Batangas Coast Guard chief Lt. Commander Elpidio Guinio. He said 140 cargo trucks and 23 "roll-on roll-off" vessels were grounded in the port grounds.

10 worst typhoons in the Philippines (1948-2004)*

Date	Name	Areas hit	Casualties		Damages
			Dead	Hurt	(PB)
Oct. 31-Nov. 3, 1995	Rosing	NCR, CAR, Regions I-V & VIII	936	4,152	10.83
Sept. 30-Oct. 7, 1993	Kadiang	CAR, Regions I-III	576	337	6.75
Nov. 2-6, 1991	TS Uring	Regions VI & VIII	5,101	292	1.05
Nov. 10-14, 1990	Ruping	NCR, Regions III-XII	508	1,278	10.85
Nov. 23-27, 1987	Sisang	Regions IV, V & VIII	808	927	1.12
Nov. 3-6, 1984	Undang	Regions IV-VIII	895	2,526	1.54
Aug. 31-Sept. 4, 1984	Nitang	Regions IV, VI-VIII, & X-XI	900	1,856	3.91
Oct. 16-22, 1970	Titang	Region VI and Mindanao	631	76	0.305
Sept. 12-15, 1970	Sening	Regions II-IV & VI	575	1,593	0.079
Oct. 17-22, 1952	Trix	Region V	995		0.088

*Does not include typhoon Winnie

PDI Research
Sources: NDCC, Pagasa and Typhoon2000.com

He said all trips to Oriental Mindoro, Abra de Ilog in Occidental Mindoro, Romblon and Caticlan, Antique were suspended.

In Lucena, Quezon, a total of 40 people were reported stranded. Thirty-one were stranded in San Jose, Batangas; 22 in Romblon, and 21 in Real in Quezon. A total of 222 buses, cars and trucks and 19 sea vessels were reported stranded in these places.

Adriano Fuego, regional director of the Office of Civil Defense-8, said at least 1,539 passengers bound for Luzon were stranded at two ports in Allen, Northern Samar. Also, 40 buses, 39 light vehicles and 56 trucks were stuck at the ports.

Tidal wave

A text message from Catherine Cervantes, a Kabalikat Civicom member in Atimonan town, said she was informed by her communication colleague from Real, Quezon, that a tidal wave hit the coastal villages of Bonbon, Matangkap, Pandan and Pagitan.

However, when the INQUIRER contacted Roberto Taule, head of the Coast Guard detachment in Real, he said he didn't have a report on the incident. He said his men didn't have any means to verify the information because of the bad weather.

When the INQUIRER contacted Kabalikat in Real town, the source said he got the information from Coast Guard personnel themselves. The Kabalikat member, who requested that his name be withheld, identified the Coast Guard men who provided him the information as Atendido and Ramos.

Real Mayor Arsenio Ramallosa, in a satellite phone interview, said he also had heard the report about the tidal wave in Panukulan. "But it is far from my town, I don't have any means to verify the report," he said.

Eastern Visayas

In Eastern Visayas, three provinces in the region have been without electricity since Wednesday evening. Classes in the elementary and secondary levels were also suspended in the region.

Fuego said the provinces of Eastern Samar, Northern Samar and Biliran suffered power interruptions brought about by the strong winds and heavy rains spawned by "Yoyong."

Power was partially restored in Borongan, the capital town of Eastern Samar, yesterday afternoon after the Philippine Transmission Co. (Transco) was able to repair the electric posts that were nearly toppled by strong winds.

At least seven passenger vessels bound for Leyte were not allowed to depart from Cebu ports.

Heavy rains spawned by "Yoyong" began pouring on the Samar provinces yesterday afternoon but, so far, there had been no report of flooding or landslides, according to Governors Raul Daza of Northern Samar and Ben Evardone of Eastern Samar.

Negros Occidental

In Negros Occidental, two bodies washed ashore Wednesday amid heavy rains over the last two days.

The body of another man, aged between 15-20, also washed ashore in Barangay Talubangi, Kabankalan, yesterday. The body remained unidentified and was brought to the DND Funeral Parlor in the town proper.

In Cebu City, Cindy Lou Bacoy, 8, died after she was buried alive in a 3-foot excavation she dug near the riverbank in Barangay Tisa of the city. *With reports from Leila B. Salaverria in Manila; Gil Francis G. Arevalo, Jed Ll. Bacason, Niño Jesus Orbeta, Michael B. Jaucian, Marlon Ramos, Delfin T. Mallari Jr. and Juan Escandor PDI Southern Luzon Bureau; Joey A. Gabieta, Cyrain G. Cabuenas, Carla P. Gomez and Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau; and PDI Northern Luzon Bureau and Central Luzon Desk*

AFP, NPA in stormy exchange over truce

LUCENA CITY—The Armed Forces should declare a "unilateral ceasefire" to ensure the peaceful delivery of relief goods to calamity victims, Communist Party of the Philippines spokesperson Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal said yesterday.

Rosal made the statement in reply to a request by Quezon Vice Gov. David Suarez for the New People's Army to lay off soldiers engaged in rescue and relief operations.

"Tell Vice Governor Suarez that the NPA will not harass the soldiers. But it is better if the military will declare a unilateral ceasefire," he said in a phone interview.

But Rosal's proposal was immediately shot down by Maj. Gen. Pedro Cabuay, commander of the Southern Luzon Command based in Camp Nakar here.

"If they are really sincere and honest in helping the suffering calamity victims, why the need for us to declare a unilateral ceasefire?" Cabuay said, adding:

"Why can't [Rosal] order the NPA to desist from launching offensives against soldiers engaged in rescue and relief operations?

"I think this only shows that [Rosal] no longer controls his men." *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

All gov't hospitals on code-white

HEALTH Secretary Manuel Dayrit has put all government hospitals and regional health offices on code-white alert, which means all key departments and personnel would be on standby for emergencies.

Dayrit said the Department of Health was closely monitoring calamity areas and evacuation centers to ensure that no disease pattern would lead to a disease outbreak.

He advised those in evacuation centers to take extra care in avoiding communicable ailments.

In a health advisory issued yesterday, the DOH particularly stressed the importance of drinking safe water.

"When in doubt, do not drink. Boil water for two minutes or chlorinate to make it safe. Water containers should be clean and covered at all times," the DOH said.

It said leftover food should be kept in clean containers and covered at all times to keep household pests away. Food should be cooked well.

Dayrit advised parents to prevent their children from playing in floodwaters and to seek medical attention immediately when the kids show any symptoms of infection or weakness.

He also said proper hygiene and waste disposal should protect the household from lingering bacteria or harmful microorganisms.

Among the common infections during the rainy days are coughs and colds, acute gastroenteritis, leptospirosis, measles, dengue and hepatitis A. *Blanche S. Rivera*

Some tips after the storm

SOME tips after the typhoon:

- If you have stayed out of your house and it has been weakened by the typhoon, reenter with caution and check its foundations.
- Watch out for broken electric wires.
- Report broken utility lines (electricity, water, gas and telephone) to the appropriate agencies or authorities.
- Do not turn on the main electrical switch until it has been properly checked.
- Do not swim or ride a boat in swollen rivers.
- Do not go sight-seeing in disaster areas where your presence might hamper rescue and other emergency operations.
- Report incidences of price manipulation to the local office of the Department of Trade and Industry.
- Residents of hillside communities should be on alert for signs of possible landslide. Before a landslide, there is a gradual, often unnoticed movement, but this shows up in the cracking and sloping downward of structures. Warning signs include cracks that appear on the ground and on the walls of buildings, even with no ground shakes. The cracks are "arcuate" or curved; fences and electric posts bend or slope downward; rock beds also show signs of bending, and trees appear to be sloping down.
- Know the contact numbers of emergency response councils and concerned government authorities or NGOs in your area.

Some emergency numbers:

MERALCO–16211
Red Cross–5245787/5278384 to 89
NDCC–912-5979;912-2665
DSWD–931-79-16, 931-80-68
Civil Defense Operation Center–911-5061

PDI Research

DINGALAN, Aurora, resident Shewin Belgar was airlifted and rushed to Fort Magsaysay Hospital in Laur, Nueva Ecija.

REM ZAMORA

French firm offers free satellite use

THE FRENCH telecoms firm Vodafon yesterday offered the use of its satellites to improve communications in areas ravaged by the typhoons.

Vodafon, through Telecoms Sans Frontier, joined the list of international groups that have offered assistance to the National Disaster Coordinating Council.

The US government, through the Joint US Military Advisory Group (Jusmag), provided $100,000 to the Philippine National Red Cross for the purchase of relief items for the typhoon victims, according to a statement from the US Embassy.

The Japanese government, through the Japanese International Coordinating Agency, also donated power generators, water purifiers and assorted relief items.

Typhoon grounds planes; many flights canceled

By Clarissa S. Batino

AIRLINES canceled evening flights while metro railway systems halted operations starting at 6 p.m. last night in anticipation of the arrival of Typhoon "Yoyong" in Metro Manila.

Cebu Pacific canceled more than 10 domestic and overseas flights yesterday. Smaller operators like Asian Spirit also suspended most trips.

But Philippine Air Lines (PAL) said operations were normal except for the morning flight to and from Legazpi City.

PAL sister firm Air Philippines Corp. said all flights proceeded as scheduled except for a chartered flight to Daegu in Korea.

"Our projection based on the typhoon tracking is that operations would be normal even on Friday unless Yoyong changes course. We will act accordingly and immediately issue an advisory," said PAL vice president Rolando Estabillo in an interview at 5:30 p.m.

PAL has a nightly trip to the United States and other overseas destinations.

In its advisory as of 6 p.m., PAL said it would operate its normal schedule for flights (both domestic and international) out of Manila last night.

Continue to operate

Alfonso Cusi, general manager of the Manila International Airport Authority, said the international and domestic airports in Metro Manila would continue to operate.

He said it was up to the airline companies if they wanted to suspend flights.

"We are open 24 hours for any emergency or commercial operations. Flight cancellations would have to be decided by the airlines," said Cusi.

The MIAA general manager said a Japan Airlines flight scheduled to arrive at 10:05 p.m. yesterday was moved to 11:50 this morning. A Singapore Airlines scheduled to arrive at 10.25 last night was rescheduled to 11:25 this morning.

Cebu Pacific yesterday canceled the following overseas flights: Subic to Inchon, Korea; a return flight from Korea; a flight to Hong Kong and one back.

Also canceled were flights to and from Subic, Cebu, Iloilo, Davao and Bacolod.

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

New Ukraine election likely to be held

KIEV—A new Ukrainian poll of some sort looked increasingly likely as parliament and the Supreme Court pressed ahead on Thursday with efforts to resolve a national crisis over a disputed presidential election.

Supporters thronged in slush-filled streets, heeding opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko's call not to let momentum slip in overturning an election he said was stolen by Moscow-backed rival Viktor Yanukovich by mass fraud.

Jan Kubis, OSCE secretary general and part of a foreign mediation team in Kiev, expressed optimism that progress was being made toward resolving the crisis.

"I am very glad that there is a political will on both sides to find a way out of this political crisis," he said in a BBC interview.

He noted: "We would like to see the two candidates, Mister Yushchenko and Yanukovich, meeting once again, then to start a political reform and eventually to constitute a new government but all this is part of one package."

Hundreds of demonstrators blocked government buildings despite what outgoing President Leonid Kuchma said was an agreement on Wednesday to free them.

"We are letting in civil servants, but no politicians," said a guard at a blockade near the main government building.

Talks on Wednesday between the two protagonists failed to end a standoff that threatens to tear apart the former Soviet republic situated between old master Russia and the EU.

But both sides, whose talks were brokered by international mediators, agreed to proceed with constitutional changes long sought by Kuchma to reduce the powers of the president and boost those of parliament.

No more talks were scheduled pending a ruling by the Supreme Court on Yushchenko's complaint of electoral fraud in the Nov. 21 run-off for the presidency.

The court's ruling will be pivotal to resolving the crisis, which has dented the economy. If the court, meeting for a fourth day, rules in favor of the opposition, election officials will have to revoke the victory they handed to Yanukovich.

Ten days into the crisis, the opposition scored a victory in its drive to overturn the election result when parliament sacked Yanukovich as prime minister. But Yanukovich called the decision illegal and refused to accept it.

Yushchenko, who regards links to the West as key to Ukraine's future while Yanukovich views strong ties to Moscow as essential for the country's development, has brought vast crowds of supporters onto the streets to back his case.

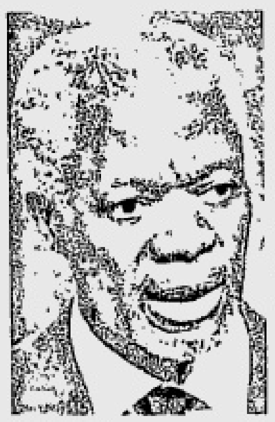
The European Union, the United States and other Western powers have called for a new election to end the standoff. Nato urged politicians not to reduce the dispute to an East-West row.

Yushchenko said after the talks ended on Wednesday that he wanted a repeat of last month's run-off between Yanukovich and Yushchenko—and not a completely new poll as favored by Kuchma.

"If the idea of a completely new election is raised again, there is absolutely no point in taking part in these talks," he told supporters. *Reuters*

Diplomats give embattled Annan show of support

UNITED NATIONS—World diplomats gave a show of support on Wednesday for embattled Secretary General Kofi Annan, who is facing mounting criticism over the UN role in Iraqi oil sales under Saddam Hussein.



ANNAN AFP

The move came as a leading US senator investigating the UN's now defunct oil-for-food program called for Annan to resign, claiming he had evidence that the UN official in charge had received payoffs from Saddam's regime.

The US government distanced itself from but did not directly reject the call by Sen. Norm Coleman, which came on the heels of another appeal from a leading US newspaper columnist this week for Annan to step down.

Diplomats from several nations met with Annan at UN headquarters in New York and expressed their support, said Spain's ambassador to the United Nations, Juan Antonio Yanez-Barnuevo.

He said the UN chief was facing "unfair, unwarranted attacks" and that Annan, whose term concludes at the end of 2006, had been "an inspiration to us all." He said the diplomats had found Annan "in very good spirits." African nations meanwhile sent a letter, obtained by AFP, that pledged "unflinching support" for the secretary general.

"The African group is very disturbed by these (media) reports, their bias and lack of objectivity as well as their propaganda value," said the letter. "The group commends you on the able manner in which you have been handling the situation."

Annan appointed former US federal reserve banking chairman Paul Volcker to investigate wide-ranging allegations of impropriety in the program, which allowed Iraq to sell oil under UN supervision to buy humanitarian supplies.

But Coleman, who is heading a separate US Senate investigation into the program, said in the Wall Street Journal that Annan should leave office immediately. *AFP*

Tensions rise between black, white Aussies

SYDNEY—With relations between black and white Australia edging toward a flash point, Australian police charged two men on Thursday over reports that an aboriginal boy was dragged along the ground with a noose around his neck.

The incident during a farm break-in in tropical Queensland state followed a riot six days ago on a remote Queensland island sparked by the death of an aboriginal man in a police cell.

Two men and two boys are suspected of breaking into a farmhouse near Goondiwindi, 280 km west of the state capital Brisbane, on Tuesday. Police said the four were confronted by farm workers.

Aboriginal leaders said a 16-year-old boy was caught as he tried to escape across a river. His captors tied his hands, put a rope around his neck and dragged him up and down a river bank before he was beaten and threatened with a shotgun.

Media said the aborigine boy was in hospital with head and chest injuries and possible rope burns on his neck. The other boy escaped after a scuffle and raised the alarm at the nearby Toomelah aboriginal community.

Late on Thursday, police charged a 44-year-old man and a 23-year-old man with assault and ordered them to appear in court on Jan. 18. Charges of breaking and entering and theft were also laid against a 19-year-old from Toomelah. *Reuters*

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THE LANDMARK

ASIAN STANDOUTS Miss China Yang Jin (center) poses with Miss Chinese Taipei Yi Hui Xu (left) and Miss Hong Kong Queenie Chu during a photo session for the Miss World Contest in Sanya, on south China's Hainan Island Dec. 2. One hundred and seven contestants are in Sanya preparing for the final on Dec. 4. AP

US ups forces in Iraq to their highest levels

WASHINGTON—The Pentagon said Wednesday it is increasing US forces in Iraq to their highest levels since last year's invasion, extending tours of duty and deploying fresh troops from the United States to provide security for elections on Jan. 30.

US force levels in Iraq will climb from 138,000 to about 150,000 by late December or early January, said Brig. Gen. David Rodriguez, of the Joint Staff's operations directorate.

"The 150,000 is the highest level since the invasion force," Rodriguez said. The United States had about 150,000 ground troops in Iraq at the end of major combat operations April 30, 2003.

The 2nd Brigade of the 1st Cavalry Division, the 2nd Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division, the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit and a transportation company will have their tours of duty extended for between 45 and 60 days through the Jan. 30 elections, he said.

Two battalions of the 82nd Airborne Division also have been ordered to deploy to Iraq for 120 days as part of the effort to bolster security during the elections.

"The purpose is mainly to provide security for the elections, but it is also to keep up the pressure on the insurgents following the Fallujah operation," Rodriguez said.

The US-led assault on Fallujah and fighting around other insurgent strongholds in the predominantly Sunni areas made November one of the deadliest months since the US invasion, with US troops suffering at least 134 dead.

The violence is expected to intensify as insurgents fight to derail the elections.

Gen. George Casey, the top US commander in Iraq, decided to extend the deployments of units already in Iraq to keep experienced forces on the ground during the period, Rodriguez said.

"They are the ones who know the ground best, who have worked with the people closest," he said.

"As far as how they will be used over there, that will be determined by the ground commander," he said.

Rodriguez said the decision to step up US force levels in Iraq was "no reflection" on the performance of the newly trained Iraqi security forces, which now number about 115,000.

"The Iraqi forces have continued to improve. They are making progress toward being able to provide for their own security," he said.

Sen. Jack Reed, a Democratic member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said the Pentagon announcement showed that "commanders in Iraq need more troops and that this will be a long and very expensive process for the United States."

"While our forces in Iraq have been very effective in defeating the insurgents in Fallujah, there are not enough troops to respond to terrorist attacks in all areas of the country and there are certainly not enough US or Iraqi trained forces to provide adequate security for the elections in January," he said. *AFP*

Nations pledge to cut ignorance about AIDS

BEIJING—The world's two most populous nations promised on Wednesday to eradicate ignorance about AIDS, a disease dismissed at first as a Western evil confined to drug users, homosexuals and prostitutes.

In the world's poorest continent, Africa, where the epidemic has ripped huge holes in the social and economic fabric, thousands staged rallies to mark World AIDS Day.

The World Health Organization estimates there are 25.4 million HIV sufferers in sub-Saharan Africa, 60 percent of the global total in a region with 10 percent of the world's population.

Activists and governments around the world marked the day with events drawing attention to the disease and promoting its eradication.

"HIV/AIDS is the greatest health crisis of our time. Its defeat requires the cooperation of the entire global community," US President George W. Bush said in Washington.

China, criticized for its slow initial response to HIV/AIDS, put on a display of commitment to fighting a disease the United Nations fears could infect 10 million Chinese by 2010.

In India, where over 5 million people have already been infected, the government pledged greater efforts to promote awareness, especially in rural areas and among the young.

"The world can no longer afford to ignore the enormity of the HIV epidemic," Antonio Costa, executive director of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, said in Beijing.

"AIDS affects us all," said UN Secretary General Kofi Annan who called it "the worst epidemic humanity has ever faced." *Reuters*

Ultrasound scans not risk for baby

PARIS—Repeated ultrasound examinations during pregnancy do not pose a risk to the baby's health, according to a study published on Saturday in the British medical weekly The Lancet.

Australian researchers carried out follow-up tests among 2,700 children who took part in a trial 10 years ago.

Half of the children had been exposed to repeated scans during their mother's pregnancy while the other half had had only one scan, shortly before birth.

The children were checked at the ages of one, two, three, five and eight, with assessments for their height and weight, speech, behavior and neurological development.

Frequent-scan babies may have slower growth in the uterus, but after birth they catch up, the researchers say.

There is no significant difference in physical size or cognitive skills between them and infants who received only one scan, they say.

The study is lead-authored by John Newnham, a professor at the School of Women's and Infants' Health at King Edward Memorial Hospital, Subiaco, in Western Australia. *AFP*

EVOLUTION OF FLIGHT

Ornithopters by Leonardo da Vinci, late 1400s | 1903 Wright Flyer by Orville and Wilbur Wright, 1903 | Tractor-propeller monoplane by Trajan Vuia, 1906 | 747-100 jumbo jet by Boeing, 1969 | e-Ticket launched in the Philippines by Cebu Pacific, October 2003

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Barghuti joins Palestinian presidential derby

RAMALLAH, West Bank—The Palestinian leadership was in turmoil Thursday after jailed intifada leader Marwan Barghuti entered the presidential campaign, pitting himself against PLO chairman Mahmud Abbas.

In a stunning U-turn, the West Bank Fatah leader filed his candidacy late Wednesday for the Jan. 9 contest to succeed the late Palestinian Authority president Yasser Arafat with barely three hours to go before the midnight deadline for the close of nominations.

After lodging the nomination papers with the Palestinian elections commission, Barghuti's wife Fadwa read a statement from her husband who is currently serving five life sentences in an Israeli prison for anti-Israeli attacks.

Barghuti said he had decided to run "after deep reflection" and after having "received hundreds of messages from the grass roots (of Fatah) and from other Palestinian figures and cadres."

"I have decided to enter this democratic battle to maintain the path of the intifada and the resistance and to defend it and protect it from being labelled as terrorism," he said.

The decision, made just five days after Barghuti announced that he would not run, astonished and angered the dominant Fatah faction which had already chosen the moderate former Premier Abbas as its official candidate.

Abbas had been expected to win the contest at a canter but he commands a fraction of Barghuti's popular support.

"We regard Marwan's position as astonishing and reprehensible. It does not conform to the traditions of Fatah," Tayeb Abdelrahim, general secretary of the presidential office, said after a meeting of the decision-making Fatah central committee in Gaza.

Even some of Barghuti's traditional supporters condemned his decision.

Zakaria Zubeidi, the head of the armed Fatah offshoot Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades in its Jenin stronghold, said Barghuti should not be running against the official choice of Fatah.

"We are against the candidacy of Marwan because it is contrary to the decision of the central committee of Fatah which unanimously chose Abu Mazen (Abbas) as the candidate for the election," Zubeidi told AFP.

"Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades supports the candidacy of Abu Mazen because his candidacy is a reflection of the unity of Fatah." *AFP*

US hit for evading Bhopal liability

WASHINGTON—Greenpeace accused the United States Wednesday of "environmental racism" for evading liability from the world's worst industrial accident in India that may have killed more than 20,000 people.

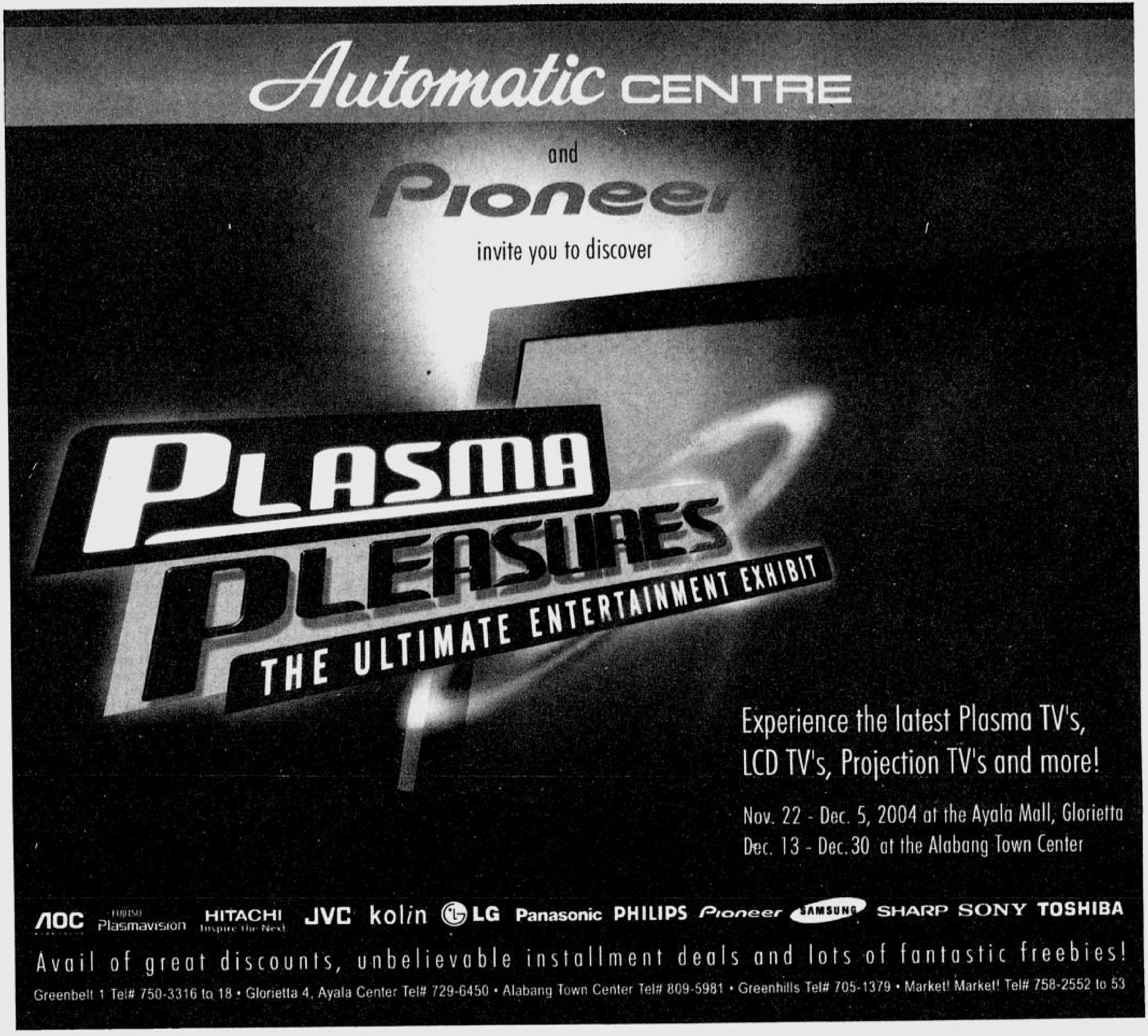
Ahead of the 20th anniversary on Friday of the Bhopal poison gas tragedy, the global environmental , group called on US authorities to ensure swift justice and adequate compensation for victims.

The tragedy occurred on Dec. 3, 1984 after about 40 tons of killer methyl isocyanate gas leaked out of a pesticide plant operated by American firm Union Carbide, now owned by US giant Dow Chemical.

"Had this happened in the US, there is no doubt that Dow Chemical would now be paying for the cleanup that would be ordered by the EPA through litigation by local community groups," said Greenpeace legal director Rick Hind.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the US environment watchdog.

"What's happening here is nothing less than taking advantage of the differences in countries but also an example of environmental racism," Hind charged at a media teleconference on the Bhopal tragedy. *AFP*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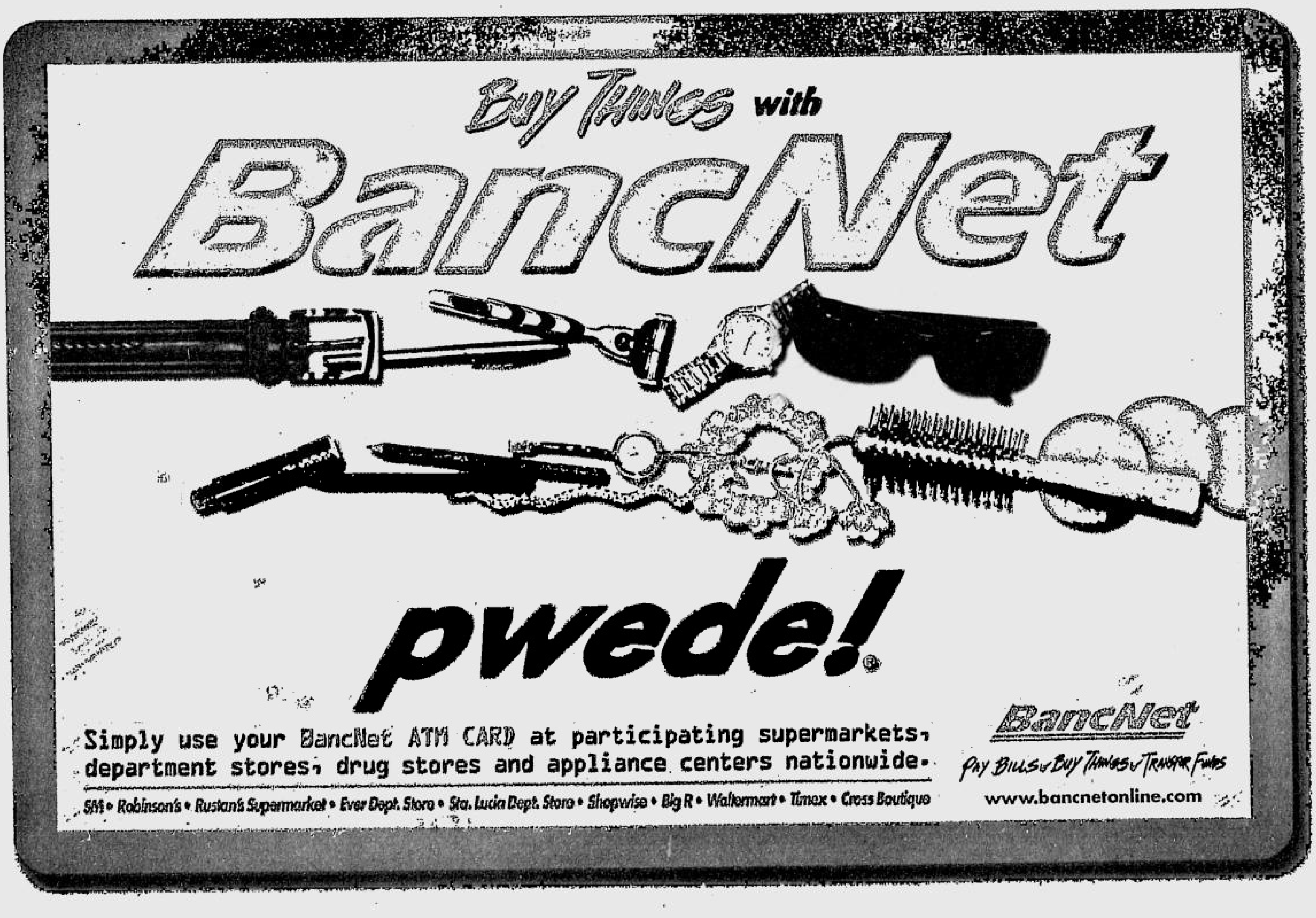
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Come together

EDITORIAL

THE HEARTBREAKING death toll from storm Winnie continues to mount, and we can only stare at the worsening statistics with the hope that somehow, somewhere they don't add up to something more appallingly tragic, and that an accounting error had been committed in the haste and the confusion.

A wide swathe of Southern—and to some extent, Central—Luzon has absorbed the fury of the typhoon. The tragedy cuts across the geographies of Nueva Ecija, Bulacan, Quezon, Rizal and Metro Manila. All of these provinces constitute a searing landscape of human tragedy.

It is easy to blame illegal logging for the landslide and the terrible flooding. But the cause-finding and the blame-pinning will have to happen much later. What is needed now is for a concerted action to rescue people, alleviate the conditions of the victims, and bury the dead.

Already there are more than 500 people that have been reported dead or missing. The number may pale in comparison with the Ormoc tragedy a dozen years ago, which drowned and killed 5,000 people, but this doesn't console because our people remain subject to the vagaries of nature and the harshness of the elements, and may even have been made more prone to death and destruction by error, shortsightedness and mismanagement.

In the face of nature's wrath and human folly, the human community must come together and come to the aid of Winnie's victims. There is every opportunity for everyone to show solidarity with the casualties, the wounded and those displaced by the horrific disaster.

There are many avenues through which one can extend assistance to the victims, their kith and kin. The National Disaster Coordinating Council headed by the defense secretary and the Department of Social Welfare and Development are coordinating efforts to send immediate relief to the homeless and the other victims.

Non-government organizations are also coordinating with the government to dispatch relief and other forms of assistance to the victims. Perhaps one can channel assistance through these NGOs.

Or one can channel their help through the usually reliable Catholic Charities. The Church network of dioceses and parishes particularly in the affected provinces is quite extensive and wide. Those in Manila may contact Caritas Manila that has a tie-up with the Caritas of the dioceses in the affected localities. Caritas Manila will make sure the help is delivered to the beneficiaries.

There must be something in tragedies like this that pulls together a fragmented community and an anomic society so that people can rise above their petty divisions and their selfish, narrow individualism.

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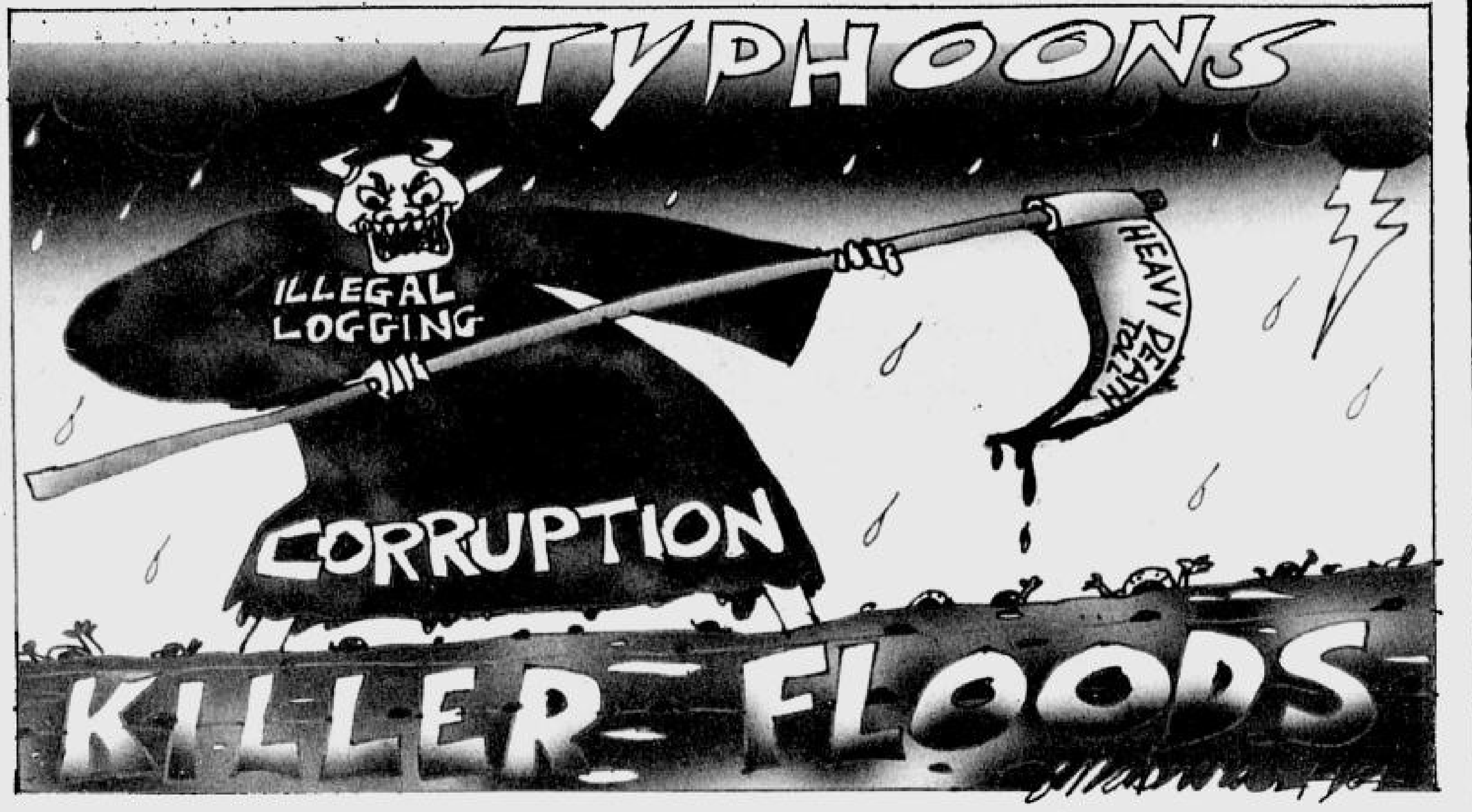

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Come together

EDITORIAL

THE HEARTBREAKING death toll from storm Winnie continues to mount, and we can only stare at the worsening statistics with the hope that somehow, somewhere they don't add up to something more appallingly tragic, and that an accounting error had been committed in the haste and the confusion.

A wide swathe of Southern—and to some extent, Central—Luzon has absorbed the fury of the typhoon. The tragedy cuts across the geographies of Nueva Ecija, Bulacan, Quezon, Rizal and Metro Manila. All of these provinces constitute a searing landscape of human tragedy.

It is easy to blame illegal logging for the landslide and the terrible flooding. But the cause-finding and the blame-pinning will have to happen much later. What is needed now is for a concerted action to rescue people, alleviate the conditions of the victims, and bury the dead.

Already there are more than 500 people that have been reported dead or missing. The number may pale in comparison with the Ormoc tragedy a dozen years ago, which drowned and killed 5,000 people, but this doesn't console because our people remain subject to the vagaries of nature and the harshness of the elements, and may even have been made more prone to death and destruction by error, shortsightedness and mismanagement.

In the face of nature's wrath and human folly, the human community must come together and come to the aid of Winnie's victims. There is every opportunity for everyone to show solidarity with the casualties, the wounded and those displaced by the horrific disaster.

There are many avenues through which one can extend assistance to the victims, their kith and kin. The National Disaster Coordinating Council headed by the defense secretary and the Department of Social Welfare and Development are coordinating efforts to send immediate relief to the homeless and the other victims.

Non-government organizations are also coordinating with the government to dispatch relief and other forms of assistance to the victims. Perhaps one can channel assistance through these NGOs.

Or one can channel their help through the usually reliable Catholic Charities. The Church network of dioceses and parishes particularly in the affected provinces is quite extensive and wide. Those in Manila may contact Caritas Manila that has a tie-up with the Caritas of the dioceses in the affected localities. Caritas Manila will make sure the help is delivered to the beneficiaries.

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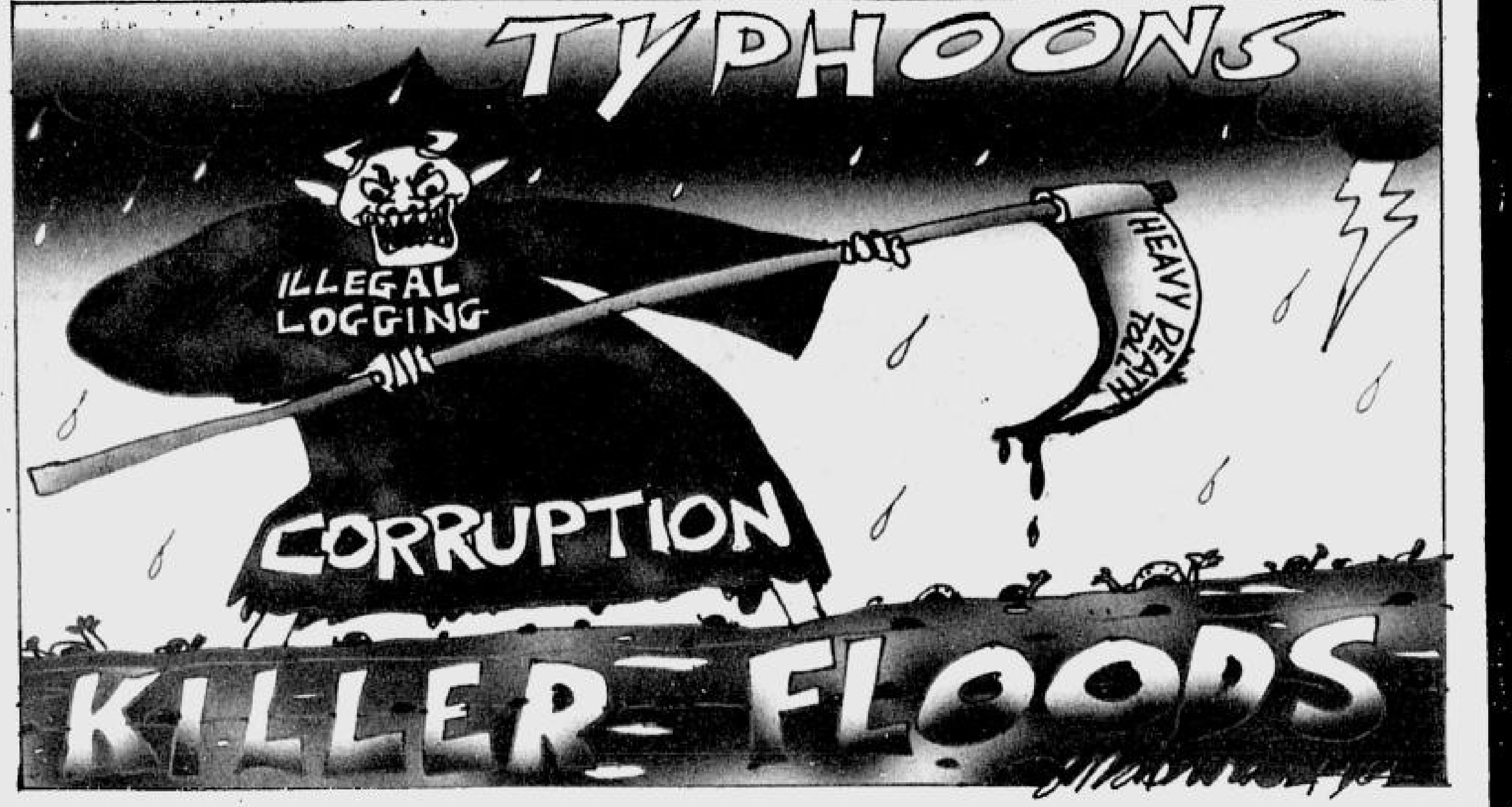

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Comments to raul.pangalangan@up.edu.ph

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Extraordinary turnaround

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

IN AN EXTRAORDINARY turnaround, the Supreme Court on Wednesday flung wide open the mineral wealth of the country for "exploration, development and utilization" by foreign mining companies in a decision overturning its ruling last Jan. 27, which held as unconstitutional the Philippine Mining Act of 1995. The Jan. 27 decision disallowed wholly owned foreign companies from exploiting the mineral sector.

Last Wednesday's decision marked an unprecedented liberal interpretation of the nationalist provisions of the Constitution that have historically tended to restrict the exploitation of the national patrimony to companies owned or controlled by Filipinos. The 246-page decision, penned by Associate Justice Artemio Panganiban, took great pains to explain and argue the departure from the restrictive school of thought that has dominated Philippine jurisprudence on national patrimony exploitation since the adoption of the first Commonwealth Constitution in 1935.

The decision could break new ground and serve as precedent for further liberalization of the economic nationalist provisions of the Constitution. It aligned the Constitution to the requirements of contemporary economic development driven by foreign investment and freer flow of capital and business intercourse between developed and developing economies, such as the Philippines.

Emphasizing the decisiveness of the ruling, the Court voted 10-4, with one abstention, leaving little doubt about the conviction that went behind the decision. Specifically, the Court held as legal the Financial-Technical Assistance Agreement which the government had signed in 1995 with Western Mining Corp. Phils., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Australian firm Western Mining Corp. Holdings Ltd.

To show the switch from its January decision which declared the 1995 Mining Act, upon which the FTAA was based, as unconstitutional, the Court in January voted 7-5. The 10 who voted to overturn the January decision were Chief Justice Hilario Davide, Justices Panganiban, Reynato Puno, Leonardo Quisumbing, Angelina Sandoval Gutierrez, Alicia Austria-Martinez, Renato Corona, Dante Tinga, Minita Chico-Nazario and Cancio Garcia. The four who dissented were Justices Consuelo Yñares-Santiago, Antonio Carpio, Conchita Carpio-Morales and Romeo Callejo.

In January, the seven justices who voted to declare the Mining Act unconstitutional were Davide, Puno, Quisumbing, Carpio-Morales, Corona, Callejo and Tinga. The decision held that the 1995 FTAA did not contravene the 1987 Constitution because the Constitution expressly allowed service contracts in "large-scale exploration, development and utilization of minerals, petroleum and mineral oils."

The broad philosophical argument that underpinned the latest decision was expressed in the following words:

"The Constitution should be read in broad life-giving strokes. It should not be used to strangulate economic growth or to serve narrow, parochial interests.

"Rather, it should be construed to grant the President and Congress sufficient discretion and reasonable leeway to enable them to attract foreign investment, as well as to secure for our people and our posterity the blessings of prosperity and peace."

The decision reflected the Court's awareness of criticisms from the business community that, in a series of decisions, it had interfered in executive decisions concerning economy-related contracts and had thus exercised the economic policymaking prerogatives of the executive and legislated economic policies. The decision clearly addressed this contentious issue.

"The judiciary should not inordinately interfere in the exercise of this presidential power of control over the EDU (exploration, development and utilization) of our natural resources," the Court said. In a clear effort to strike a balance between the protection of the national patrimony and the economic requirements of a modern economy, the Court said its new decision would answer the "need to develop our mining industry and extract what Neda Secretary Romulo Neri estimates is some $840 billion worth of mineral wealth lying hidden in the ground, in order to jump-start our floundering economy on the one hand, and on the other, the need to enhance our nationalistic aspirations, protect our indigenous communities, and prevent irreversible ecological damage."

The Court added: "Verily, the mineral wealth and natural resources of this country are meant to benefit not merely a select group of people living in areas locally affected by mining activities, but the entire Filipino nation."

The decision indicated that the Court gave weight to the huge economic cost of losing foreign mining investment.

The administration, the business community and mining groups joined in chorus to hail the decision. Their reaction indicated the economic importance these groups attached to the decision.

The nationalist sector has yet to express its reaction. The administration said the decision put the country in position "for a strong economic takeoff based on a reinvigorated mining industry."

The Chamber of Mines of the Philippines said the decision would ensure the flow of foreign direct investments into the country, and the Philippine Mineral Exploration Association said the decision would send a positive note to foreign investors. The European Chamber of Commerce in the Philippines called the decision "very good news." It added: "We have been hoping for this and this would mean investments in the sector could (come alive) again."

Once one of the strongest exporting sectors of the economy, mining has declined so much that it exported only $500 million worth of products in 2000, from a peak of $1.2 billion in 1980.

Remembering Bibot

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

MARRAKESH—When you're abroad, the mere mention of your country on CNN or BBC is apt to send alarm bells ringing.

I was digging through my suitcase when I heard something about the Philippines on the TV. "Rina, your country is on CNN!" exclaimed my roommate, Martha Swai, a radio producer from Tanzania.

Immediately, I rushed in front of the set, impatient for the commercial break to be over so I could listen to the news in full. It turned out to be news about the devastating floods and landslides that have killed almost 500 people in Quezon and Aurora. The footage aired on CNN showed floodwaters and mud, the color of coffee, inundating houses and what looked like fallen trees.

"Denudation has always been a problem in Luzon," I explained to Martha, while I felt sick to my stomach, realizing that such a death toll, meriting a mention on CNN, has become "routine" in our country. And not just because we're going through a late typhoon season, but also because our own neglect as a people, particularly the destruction of our natural resources, magnifies the impact of what should be but a seasonal occurrence.

The Philippines seemed to be very much on CNN's mind, since the news of the deaths from the floods was followed very soon after by a weather report predicting another typhoon to hit the country in the next few days, if not hours. Even the weatherman was moved to express his concern for the country still reeling from earlier floods and typhoons.

My sympathies to the families of all those who died everywhere devastation has hit, including Mindoro which was in the headlines the day I left. There is something about being away from your country and your loved ones that focuses your attention on them. For which I can only offer my thanks for this timely "heads up."

* * *

ANOTHER bit of shocking news that came my way, by way of an early morning text message, was that of the passing of Zeneida "Bibot" Amador.

I'm sure that by now the media would be full of encomiums about Bibot's role in the development of Philippine theater, particularly the way she trained and honed to the heights of professionalism current luminaries in theater and the arts, including Lea Salonga and Monique Wilson. But I prefer to remember Bibot in her many incarnations on stage, TV and even the movies.

For most Filipinos, our introduction to Bibot was on a TV show, "Santa Zita and Mary Rose." Here, she played a mean, naughty but big-hearted housemaid, and she was one reason my sisters and I religiously followed this show that tracked the many joys and sorrows of a middle-class family and the parallel lives of their house help.

Such was Bibot's impact, though, that I can't for the life of me remember any other cast member, even if, as I write this, their faces float before me. So uncannily did this household drama reflect our own concerns in those more innocent times that we felt it was a story of our lives. Though looking back, I now recognize that it took a somewhat naïve view of the social divisions that still bedevil Philippine society.

* * *

FROM "SANTA ZITA," Bibot would move on to found Repertory Philippines, which is notable not just for producing the majority of Filipino artists tapped by Cameron Mackintosh for "Miss Saigon," though come to think of it, name any theater notable in these parts and chances are he or she had at one time or another gone through the wringer of Bibot's direction.

Repertory's bigger accomplishment, I believe, is creating and sustaining an audience for theater in this country. Some decades ago, there was this controversy over the "proper" content of theater. Some, who called themselves nationalists, felt a theater company like Repertory which preferred to stage imported material, mainly from Broadway, was squandering its talents and resources on meaningless "fluff." Never one to shy away from a fight, Bibot retorted that Repertory would put on a Filipino production the minute she found "quality" material.

Looking back, one realizes the silliness of the dispute. Because what this country needed, and still needs, is a theater-going tradition, a habit of thought and inclination for theater, so that, while searching for entertainment and enlightenment, one would think of watching a play or a musical.

* * *

IT turns out that there are not just two kinds of theater in this country, but many streams and audience niches. And it is only because of the dogged dedication of champions like Bibot that theater has survived here, though theater companies, even the well-established ones, still struggle to keep their heads above water.

One memory of Bibot stands out. We were both taking part in "V-Day," the annual fund-raising and consciousness-raising event spawned by the "Vagina Monologues." When I arrived, I found Bibot sitting cross legged near the door, smoking. When I inquired whether New Voice Company, which stages TVM here, would be providing us with makeup artists, Bibot laughed heartily. "We're doing this for free! If they could afford makeup artists, they could pay us!" Then she added, with trademark insouciance, "I don't care about makeup. I've always known I'm ugly, and there's nothing that makeup can do to change that."

She would later appear onstage in the same shorts-and-T-shirt outfit she was wearing when I met her. But Bibot's performance of "Beneath the Burkha," a newly written addition to TVM, blew away playwright Eve Ensler, who would later say that she found new insights into her own words just by listening to Bibot read them.

That was vintage Bibot, one of the best (if unheralded) actors we have produced, who mothered Philippine theater as best she could.

Center of Christmas celebration

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

WHILE Christmas carols have been playing in some shops since September (the beginning of the so-called "ber" months leading to December), I have not really felt the Christmas cheer. By this time Christmas trees, lights and lanterns are already up, but nothing struck me as hard as missing the "Gloria" at last Sunday's Mass. The once colorful celebrant's vestments have turned dark, reminding us of Advent. Not a very cheerful liturgical season really, but one cannot emphasize the joy of Christmas without providing contrast.

Driving north and south of Manila recently, I gazed at rice fields and noticed the white herons walking or flying about. This is one of the signs of Christmas, migratory birds escaping from the cold winds of China, resting in the Philippines before moving off to their next destination.

Looking at the beautiful birds, the Pinoy in me wondered if they were edible, and if they were, did they taste best roasted, fried, stuffed or drowned in some dark and thick sauce? I guessed they were not very good or that at least they were swift enough to elude hunters because most of our seasonal visitors survive the long trip and return to their point of origin.

Short of causing panic, I also asked aloud if they were immune to bird flu. I answered my own question and suggested that the warm and polluted Philippine air eliminated the virus.

Two Sundays ago, after lunch in my favorite aunt's house in San Fernando, Pampanga, there was a scramble for something on the table. Wrapped in newspaper and banana leaves was the fragrant *duman*, a young, green, semi-sticky rice sold only in November and December. Since a small bag costs P1,800, it was not served on a platter but was lovingly and sparingly coaxed from the bag and everyone grabbed handfuls without waiting for the chocolate in the kitchen that had not yet come to a boil.

With the first bag quickly gone and enjoyed, my aunt waited for the hot chocolate to come in before opening the second bag of *duman*. Again the mad rush, but this time the *duman* was mixed with the chocolate and scooped up like there was no tomorrow.

While this was going on, people expressed their preferences. Some liked *duman* as is while others liked theirs fried and popped to make what is better known as *pinipig*.

Different people have different ways of reckoning the seasons, using varying signals which are usually visual. But for me, food is a major marker. With *duman*, the countdown to Christmas and everything nice begins.

Aside from being with the truly extended family, it is the meal that is at the center of the celebration. It is odd that while the menu has not changed in decades, everyone looks forward to it. After midnight Mass (which these days is often celebrated earlier), the cool air gives one a hearty appetite and an appreciation for steaming hot chicken and pork *nilaga* with added zest from roasted ham bones boiled to make the stock. Standard fiesta fare will be found on tables: *rellenong bangus, rellenong manuc* or *galantina*, generous slices of *queso de bola* (aged edam cheese, usually "Marca Pato" or "Marca Piña" with the trademark duck or pineapple on the red cellophane cover), tamales, glazed ham, fruit salad, *biringhi* (the Spanish paella indigenized in Pampanga, made with sticky rice and given a distinctive green color), and, if available, *apahap* which was once considered the only fish proper for a fiesta table because it was the most expensive. Then, of course, what fiesta table can be complete without *lechon* or suckling pig as the center piece? (But in recent years, I have noticed that the apple in the snout is not as common as it used to be.) My aunt has the best freshly popped *chicharon* with *laman* in town. She encourages us to enjoy the *chicharon*, assuring us it is healthy having been deep-fried in canola oil.

Dessert that sits on a separate table could be said to be just as important (or perhaps more important) than the *ulam* on the main table. In Pampanga, we have a sweet tooth resulting in a wide range of choices: hot chocolate with *duman*, *tibuk-tibuk* (loosely translated as "shaking" because it does jiggle like Jello but has more calories since it is made with a lot of nipa sugar and carabao milk topped with *latik* or sweet curdled coconut milk), *leche flan, jale ube*, and *tocino del cielo* (called by children *mini-leche flan*, which it is except that each bite-size piece contains one whole egg yolk), *pastillas, turron de casuy*, sans rival (from the French "without rival" because it is a deadly combination of wafer and butter topped with chopped cashew nuts), *silvanas*, and the commercially bought cakes, pies, and breads. All these goodies make the dessert table and Christmas memorable for children.

In the first volume of "Remembrance of Things Past," Marcel Proust begins a narrative triggered by the taste of Madeleine on the tip of his tongue. It's a kilometric novel about a man eating cake. Our writers have gone to libraries and the world in search of material for the great Philippine novel after those written by Jose Rizal over a century ago. But why go through so much trouble inventing a collective history or a worthwhile literature to find ourselves? There is so much waiting to be unearthed and written down—a lot, literally, on the tip of our tongues.

* * *

Comments are welcome at aocampo@ateneo.edu

Bipolar nation

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

LAST year I was asked, on a radio talk show, if I thought we were suffering from national depression. I replied, "Not quite. I think we're more bipolar or manic-depressive, swinging from one extreme mood to another."

Mind you, I have nothing against bipolar people. One of my best friends is bipolar, and in a very extreme way. When she's down, you can almost see a dark cloud hanging over her head as she walks—no, I should say plods—around. Then she'll shift to an "up" mood, and I mean up: she'll call and ask me to go shop with her so I can rein her in, lest she end up buying two Yves Saint Laurent (YSL) bags at $1,000 each (yup, the genuine ones)—same design, one for back-up—like she did several years ago in a manic mood.

You're born bipolar and you learn to live with it, with the help of a good psychiatrist and a social support network. But when a whole nation goes bipolar, that's another matter.

From Winnie to Yoyong

The idea that we might be a bipolar nation came back to me this week because of the way we've responded to the series of typhoons.

When Winnie was approaching the Philippines last weekend, BBC's weather reports already warned about the storm and another tropical disturbance they'd spotted on their meteorological maps. That other disturbance has developed into Yoyong. Okay, so maybe the British are obsessed with weather, but their warnings were in such sharp contrast to an almost complete silence in the local media, despite the fact that just the other week, we'd been battered by two other typhoons, Unding and Violy.

Maybe because we get more than 20 typhoons a year, we tend to become rather cavalier about each approaching storm, our attention caught briefly by the letter of the alphabet in its name, rather than impending danger.

Even when Winnie finally struck, most of us in Metro Manila were not too concerned, partly because its wind speed was low. So the rains kept coming and some of Manila's streets were flooded. But then flooding is so much part of our lives as well, so we shrugged it off as another inconvenience of life in Manila. Were we shocked to find out, after Winnie left, the number of lives it had claimed.

From our down mood before Winnie struck, we've shifted into a manic frenzy with Yoyong. Day in, day out, we've been surrounded by the shrill voices of radio and television commentators warning about Yoyong. Classes were suspended even before the storm landed, while television and radio crews went around the markets, warning about high prices. I caught one TV host announcing that *bangus* had gone up to P120 a kilo, only to turn to a vendor who insisted she was selling her *bangus* at P100. I'm sure that after the TV crew left, prices all soared to fulfill the doomsday prophecies.

Then there were the vultures feasting on Winnie's victims: politicians condoling with relatives of the dead and proclaiming their indignation over illegal logging while reporters went around interviewing mourning women and children and asking them how they felt. (One particularly callous reporter asked a young boy in a hospital why he was sad, right after the child had recounted losing two brothers to the floods.)

Early warning

Alas, after Yoyong leaves, I suspect we'll slide back into lethargy until next year's new typhoon season. The righteous politicians and reporters will take up other issues and we will forget about the need to set up effective monitoring and warning systems.

A few years back, I was in Hong Kong (which is as vulnerable to typhoons as we are) when a strong typhoon lashed in. Even before the typhoon struck, television and radio kept flashing warnings and updates, including what precautions were needed to be taken. There was a sense of urgency, but not of panic and frenzy like we're seeing now for Yoyong. When the typhoon finally struck, the updates continued, again without the hysterical and shrill voices. The public was advised on which streets to avoid because they'd become flooded, but people remained calm despite the ferocity of the typhoon.

We need to have such a system in place to deal directly with the threat of typhoons. But we also need to link typhoon preparedness to environmental monitoring systems, so that places already environmentally damaged can be given top priority not just for warning announcements but for actual evacuation. Here we'd need trained social workers to mobilize people; with the last three typhoons, residents were known to resist evacuation even after the rains began.

Another kind of typhoon

I worry about another kind of typhoon about which we being too complacent, with the possibility that we'll swing the other manic extreme in a few years.

I refer here to the population problem. Last Wednesday, a team of economists from UP issued a paper warning that poverty will continue to plague us if the government doesn't face up to the population problem. The economists pointed out that we would need to double our current economic growth rates if it is to keep pace with population growth. But such doubling is unlikely to happen, so poverty levels will continue to be serious. The economists named all kinds of problems related to this poverty-population link, from a lack of jobs to the problems of responding to disasters like typhoons.

This was the same group of economists who had warned a few weeks ago, about an impending fiscal crisis. The response to that first paper was, well, manic, with no less than the President calling for increased tax collections and government austerity. Other politicians hopped into the bandwagon with all kinds of proposals such as the Bayanihan Fund.

The manic mood around the threat of a fiscal crisis was short-lived. The President announced, like some miracle worker, that the threat was over. Our wise members of Congress agreed with the President's diagnosis, blocking increased taxes on tobacco and alcohol and stubbornly clinging on to their pork barrel. And the nation slipped back into national depression … or is it national coma?

With the UP economists' new white paper, the public response has been anemic. My own beloved INQUIRER buried an article on Page 4, with hardly any mention of the paper itself and focusing instead on the responses of a Catholic bishop and a University of Asia and the Pacific economist, both of course denying that there was a population problem. Other dailies missed out completely on the paper. Only Business World gave it front-page coverage.

I predict we will continue to wallow in our present "down" mood. Given that the population typhoon is already with us, we seem to be content with retreating into our individual cocoons to weather the raging storm, occasionally peeking out and whining about the congestion but hoping it will go away eventually. Unfortunately, we will reap the consequences of this denial, reaching a point several years from now, when we might shift to the other extreme: to a manic backlash that will include draconian population control measures. Sadly, even those measures may turn out to be too little, too late.

Special treatment for abusive media?

MY heart goes out to the four cops who were placed on floating status after an encounter with a television crew late last month.

Reports say the cops apprehended an ABS-CBN cameraman for drunken driving along Katipunan Avenue at around 2:30 a.m. During the interrogation, he admitted to his violation.

Then came the rescue. Reporter Doland Castro went to the station and insisted on taking a video footage of his colleague who was inside the detention cell. The cops refused and so a heated exchange ensued.

Minutes later, the reporter was crying harassment. The policemen claimed Castro was trying to settle the case. In street parlance, "*inaareglo*."

End of story? Not for the reporter. He had to seek audience with no less than the chief of the Philippine National Police, Gen. Edgardo Aglipay. And with cameras around the PNP chief, he announced the immediate retraining of Insp. Eduardo Collantes, PO3s Arsenio David Jr., Antonio Turla and PO2 Marlon Samudio. What a way to appease the TV crew.

The moral of the story: Do not mess up with powerful media entities lest you find yourself at the receiving end of your superior's fury and the unforgiving, negative publicity.

—LOI R. LANDICHO,
3/F Jacinta Bldg. II, Edsa,
Guadalupe, Makati City

On road repairs this Christmas season

HERE'S an urgent appeal to the Department of Public Works and Highways-NCR people and the 17 mayors of Metro Manila:

If you have road repair projects between now and Dec. 31, 2004, please have them deferred up to January 2005 so that you will not contribute to the usual traffic gridlock (especially in the roads leading to the shopping malls) that we "abnormally" experience during the Christmas season.

And may I add: Please stop the practice of "repairing" those roads that do not need any repair at all.

—PAUL R. MORTEL,
Malanday, Marikina City

Why our facilities are overcrowded

ALTHOUGH I agree with some of Poch Suzara's claims (PDI, Letters, 11/16/04) that we are too poor, I disagree that the cause is overpopulation.

Most of our barrios in the rural areas have too few people. Overpopulation is only in the cities. The rural areas are under-populated and the cities overpopulated because the rural people have very little livelihood opportunities there.

There is overcrowding in hospitals and schools (especially in public hospitals and schools) because the government builds very few of them. Maybe Suzara can see the reasons for this: most of government money is used to pay our foreign debt and line up the pockets of politicians, military officers and other bureaucrats.

Our buses and jeeps are overcrowded. Why is this so? Because public buses and jeeps can only ply their routes a few times. The reason? Well, even the ignorant knows. It is because of the traffic. And what causes the traffic problems? It is not overpopulation. It is because our city roads are hijacked by cars (of the rich), which occupy most of the road spaces with only one or two passengers. Only two of 10- to 12-lane roads are reserved for public transport which carries about 95 percent of the population, while eight to 10 lanes are occupied by the 5 percent rich people in private cars.

If we reverse the ratio and give eight to 10 lanes to public transport, then the buses and jeeps can make many *byahes* (trips), so overcrowding in these vehicles will surely ease. This is a very simple solution but the government is weak to implement this because it does not want to incur the wrath of the rich.

And our slums are overcrowded, too. But the cause is not overpopulation. It is just that this unjust Philippine society has allocated nothing for the poor except a few socialized housing projects for government propaganda purposes. Foreigners and their local cohorts in business and in government have worked together to amass almost all the lands for themselves. So the poor, lacking the bravery to fight their oppression, just retreat to the riverbanks, along the *riles*, under the bridges.

The oppressors, aided by ignoramuses who don't know the facts, then pontificate that the poor are so because they are too many.

I would like to give Suzara the benefit of the doubt. Let us say that poverty is really due to overpopulation. What is the solution? Contraceptives? Marcos did that in the martial law years. He was successful in reducing the average number of children per Filipino couple—from 6.8 to 3.2. That's more than 100 percent reduction. If the overpopulation logic is true, then it should have followed that poverty in the Philippines would have been reduced by more than 100 percent. But the reverse happened, poverty worsened.

—JONAH DIMAANO,
Pro-life Philippines,
RGS Compound,
1043 Aurora Blvd., QC

Is this Ombudsman's act all for show?

WHILE Ombudsman Simeon V. Marcelo is going all out after corrupt officials to recover a few million pesos, he has left unattended my complaint involving billions of pesos of taxes left unpaid by two corporations. I just hope my suspicion—that the investigators of the Bureau of Internal Revenue and their counterparts in the Office of the Ombudsman are in cahoots—is not true.

This case started in September 1996, when I denounced the non-payment of the correct amount of taxes for the sale of several hectares of land located at Libis, Quezon City.

I have sent several follow-up letters to both the BIR and the Ombudsman. I heard nothing from either of the two offices. My letters have literally fell on deaf ears until Sept. 8, 2003, when I received a letter from the BIR informing me about its own computation of the corporations' unpaid taxes. But after that, the case seems to have been forgotten again.

The government is cash-strapped, but what are the BIR and Ombudsman doing? I hope that Marcelo is not "*pakitang tao lang*" in his campaign to get rid of graft and corruption in the government.

—ALEXANDER AGUILA,
1103 West Tower Condominium,
South Superhighway, Makati City

'Sin' taxes revised for vested interests

WHETHER the P1-billion lobby fund allegedly used to bribe some congressmen into passing House Bill 3174 was true or not is beside the point.

The point is: the downgraded bill smacks of clear indiscretion. It continues to ignore the social control considerations behind "sin" taxes; it subordinates the state's dire need for new revenues in favor of vested interests; and it tends to pass on the ultimate burden to the public.

In many modern tax systems worldwide, cigarettes and liquors are generally subject to the heaviest of taxes. This is to discourage the use of these "social-bane" commodities while still fairly maintaining the viability of their manufacturers. But here in the Philippines, the tax on petroleum products—considered the life-blood of the economy because their prices dictate all other prices in the marketplace—has always been relatively heavier, and will continue to be so notwithstanding the House version of the new "sin tax" measure.

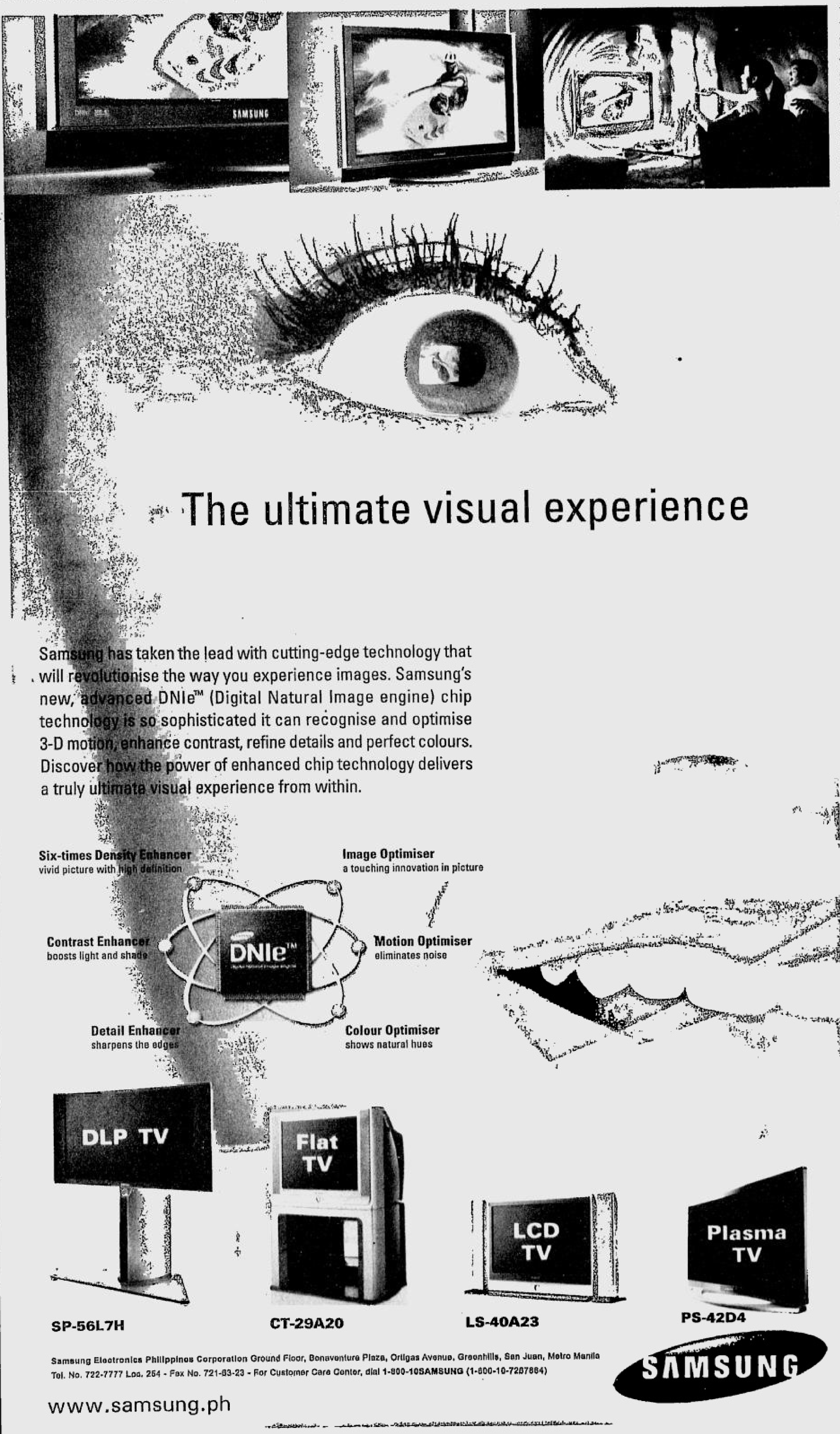
At best, our lawmakers have been content with passing an anti-smoking law, whose implementing rules and regulations, nonetheless, remain yet to be seen. The effective reduction by half of the tax on tobacco and alcohol is likely to force the Arroyo administration to come up with other measures in order to collect the "lost half" of the expected revenues. Indeed, an extra P2-tax on oil is now emerging. This will induce another round of oil price hikes apart from those dictated by the world market. One other imminent tax burden to the public is the plan to increase the value-added tax by 3 percent simply because—of all stupid reasons—the existing 10-percent VAT is not being efficiently collected. When shall we find wisdom in our tax system?

It is kind of reassuring that the senators appear relatively more discreet in vowing to pass a superior tax law on cigarettes and liquors. One hopes in earnest that that vow would not end up in vain; otherwise, it would be better for this country to shift to a unicameral form of government. For, what good would there be in having a legislature with two chambers if the imprudence of one could not be checked by the other?

—RUDY L. CORONEL,
10 Venus St., Golden Country Homes,
Alangilan, Batangas City

Erratum

In the Nov. 28 issue, the "Separate Opinion" column of Isagani Cruz on Page A14—"The travels of Mrs. Reyes"—misstated that Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes served as defense secretary during the term of ousted President Joseph Estrada. Reyes was the Armed Forces chief of staff during the Estrada administration and became the defense secretary during the administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo.



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VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
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Kalinga journalist tortured, murdered

BAGUIO CITY—The body of a journalist working for a bimonthly community paper in Tabuk, Kalinga, was found on Wednesday in a garbage bin of a school there, bearing torture marks in the head and body.

The face of Stephen Omaois, 23, staff writer of the Guru Press, was almost skinned off. He was believed killed last Friday, the same day he was abducted by unidentified men.

His body, which was identified by his family only last Wednesday, bore torture marks, was defaced and unidentifiable, and was starting to bloat when found.

The National Union of Journalists in the Philippines (NUJP) Baguio-Benguet chapter condemned Omaois' murder, which it said was an attack against press freedom and the people's right to information.

"We join our colleagues in urging the Philippine National Police and concerned agencies in the area to conduct an impartial investigation for the immediate disposal of justice for the death of Omaois," Arthur Allad-iw, NUJP Baguio-Benguet secretary general, said.

Omaois was the 12th journalist killed this year and the 61st since 1972, according to the NUJP.

Dr. Estefania Kollin, Guru Press editor, said Omaois joined the paper five months ago.

Kollin said she last saw Omaois two weeks ago when he was hot on the trail of a P9-million public works project in Pinukpuk, Kalinga.

"We even tried not to use the word 'ghost' to describe the project but it was the people who insinuated it. We have other stories for which we also got death threats. We are very afraid right now," a Guru Press staff member told the INQUIRER.

Another staff member said the paper had been receiving death threats for the public works project story. He said Omaois was probably targeted because he was the most "vulnerable." He did not elaborate.

A member of the Bago tribe in Kalinga, Omaois family moved to Mt. Province before establishing residence in Tabuk.

Kalinga is beset by inter-tribal wars resulting in vendetta killings. The Bago tribe, although strong in Benguet and Ilocos, is relatively small.

In a statement, the NUJP said the young reporter was murdered in connection with his reportage on local drug syndicates. Omaois also wrote stories about tribal wars in Kalinga.

The NUJP had been told by local residents that Omaois had been receiving death threats prior to the murder. *Frank Cimatu and Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau and Christian Esguerra in Manila*

Igorots look back at world fair as culture reshaping

BAGUIO CITY—A hundred years ago on Dec. 1, stagehands closed the gates to one of the richest spectacles in 20th century history, allowing its Filipino performers to sail home burdened with a world view that might have unwittingly reshaped the culture of indigenous Filipino communities.

Scholars are now looking at indigenous peoples' artifacts and icons, whose cultural purity may have been tainted by the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition, better known as the St. Louis World's Fair, or by the science and politics of the period.

The fair recruited 1,100 indigenous Filipinos to showcase their society to thousands of Americans, who were curious about their new colonial acquisitions.

America acquired the Philippines from Spain after the Spanish-American war in 1898, along with Cuba, Puerto Rico and other Spanish-controlled Pacific islands.

Among the fair's recruits were 225 Igorots, who had been labeled as contemporary history's first overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) because many stayed behind after touring the American midwest as hired performers.

Antonio Buangan, a San Francisco, California archivist and heir to one of the fair's Suyoc Igorot performers, told a forum at the University of the Philippines Baguio about Demeyna, a Suyoc lady, who sailed home to her village in "Cuban-heeled shoes" and a Texan hat.

But Patricia Afable, a scholar of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C., suggested an exploration of stereotypical Igorot icons like the colors of hand-woven G-strings.

She said theories about cultural changes after the 1904 World's Fair could be more than skin-deep.

Tourists recognize these costume items today as traditionally Igorot, but experts recognize their Western antecedents that date back to the period of the fair.

"Synthetic dyes that replaced organic dyes brought new color schemes to the Cordillera . . . and came into popular use only in the late 1900s. One of their first uses, for example, were in the production in the girl's school of a constabulary uniform," said Afable, who is Ibaloi.

"In Benguet, the women who taught weaving in Easter School, which was founded in 1906 in Kabayan town, were Ilocanos . . . Clothing became costumes in the discourse of what emblematic objects are in our cultural identity," she added.

The indigenous Filipinos were recruited by Americans Charles Pettit and Truman Hunt, with the help of Igorots like Antero, who helped American Rev. Clayton Clapp draw up the first Bontoc-English dictionary.

Slain fotog's widow appeals for help from Gloria

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—The widow of the slain photographer in Cebu City asked President Macapagal-Arroyo to help her family get justice for the killing of her husband Allan Dizon.

Amelina Dizon, 31, asked the President's daughter Luli Arroyo to bring her appeal to the President so that the perpetrators could be arrested and prosecuted.

Luli visited the wake of Dizon at the San Fernando Funeral Homes here and extended financial assistance to Dizon's family.

"I appeal for the intervention of the President by ordering Philippine National Police chief Edgardo Aglipay to fast track the investigation so that my husband would be the last victim," Amelina said.

Luli told reporters here that she was instructed by her mother to extend their condolences to the bereaved family of Dizon.

Luli said the President also wanted her to assess the needs of Dizon's family and see what they could do to help.

The President's daughter gave a P10,000 check to Amelina, but she clarified that the money was her personal help to the family of Dizon.

Luli also urged the police to speed up the investigation of the case, saying she personally knew Dizon because the latter always covered her visits here in Cebu.

The President's daughter, who was accompanied by Cebu City Councilor Sylvan Jakosalem, stayed for almost an hour at the wake of Dizon.

Amelina for her part said she told the President's daughter that she would need money to have Dizon buried at the Queen City Memorial Garden, Cebu's first memorial park.

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Solon urges total log ban in ARMM

COTABATO CITY—A Mindanao congressman, wary about the massive loss of lives and destruction to property in Luzon as a result of typhoon-spawned landslide and flash floods, urged a stricter government policy on selective logging, blamed by many for the tragedy.

"God forbid, we don't want this tragedy to happen to us in Mindanao," said House Deputy Speaker for Mindanao Gerry Salapudin.

Several provinces, mostly from Northern Luzon, suffered the brunt of nature's wrath with the death toll reaching 500 people and still rising.

The tragedy, said Salapudin, "is a lesson that we have to learn in Mindanao." Salapudin said there was a need "to review and study" the government's selective log ban which is graft-ridden.

Prior to the Luzon disaster, considered the worst calamity this year, Salapudin said he already felt the need to warn Environment Secretary Michael Defensor and DENR officials in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao of the possibility of the disaster also happening in the ARMM.

He recommended a total log ban in the ARMM provinces of Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Lanao del Sur and Maguindanao for at least 10 years.

Because of the inaction, Salapudin said, some unscrupulous local government officials in the ARMM continue to support illegal logging in the guise of the selective log ban.

"That's why even the police and the military are helpless because local leaders themselves are involved," he said.

Such irregularity, he said, has extended into the agrarian reform department, citing the massive cutting of trees identified as DAR resettlement areas. *Charlie Señase and Edwin Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

ROAD CLOSED

END OF THE ROAD REM ZAMORA/PDI PHOTO
A sign on a highway in Gapan, Nueva Ecija says it all. Floods and landslides made roads to the province impassable, stranding thousands of commuters and isolating villages.

Negros gov says funds released to stop cholera

BACOLOD CITY—Negros Occidental Gov. Joseph Marañon yesterday said the provincial government has released funds for medicines needed to treat patients suffering from cholera and has directed all local governments in the province to adopt measures to stem the spread of the disease.

The province also assigned a medical technologist at the Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital in Bacolod City to assist in the free laboratory examination of indigent patients, he said.

Dr. Jessie Glen Alonsabe, regional epidemiologist of the Department of Health, on Tuesday tagged Bacolod City as a hot spot for cholera and declared a cholera alert situation in Negros Occidental.

Alonsabe said the declaration was based on investigation that showed 27 confirmed cases of cholera in Bacolod City and four cases in Negros Occidental, with two deaths.

Marañon yesterday said the provincial government released P195,750 for the purchase of dextrose, medicines, reagents and supplies. These will be given to different hospitals and local government units to be used for suspected cholera cases, he said.

Marañon said the province would be releasing more funds for medicines as the need for them arises.

Dr. Luisa Efren, the provincial health officer, said they have also asked all city and municipal officials in the province to examine all possible sources of drinking water and pipes, especially in areas were there were a noted increase in cholera cases.

She also asked people to disinfect water sources and strictly monitor ambulant and semi-permanent vendors.

Bacolod Mayor Evelio Leonardia, for his part, said the warning from DOH was timely as it would allow the city government to intensify its campaign against the disease and prevent an outbreak. *Carla Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

DPWH rescinds ₱142-M road deal

THE DEPARTMENT of Public Works and Highways stripped a contractor in Antique of a project that was awarded to it for severe delays in the project implementation.

In a statement, Public Works Secretary Florante Soriquez said he has denied the motion for reconsideration sought by O.R. Sarmiento Construction on his decision to rescind the contract for the P142.81 million San Jose-Patnongon Road.

The contract was rescinded after the Sept. 26, 2004 target completion date was not met. At that time, the accomplishment rate of the project was only 38.54 percent.

"We cannot afford to continue to compromise the well-being of the public. The department has high expectations when it comes to completion of projects and we will be forced to acquire the services of another contractor since O.R. Sarmiento has proven to be incapable of finishing this project," Soriquez said.

The DPWH offered the remaining work to China Road and Bridges Corp., which is the second lowest bidder of the project and is expected to reply within the week.

Soriquez cited the separate assessment made by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), which concluded that O.R. Sarmiento can not finish the project even if the deadline was extended.

"Lending institutions, which provide ample funding for projects, have no tolerance for poor performance and neither do we," the public works secretary said.

The DPWH has kept a close watch over O.R. Sarmiento after Sen. Ramon Revilla Jr., chair of the Senate public works committee, brought to Soriquez's attention a subcontract given by the firm to another firm for the Don Galo-La Huerta Bridge rehabilitation project without approval of the DPWH.

Subcontracting is allowed only up to 50 percent of the total project and with prior clearance from the DPWH.

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Laguna execs feud over P1.2M in medicine sale

CALAMBA CITY—A ranking official of the Laguna provincial government found himself in hot water after the provincial treasurer uncovered "unauthorized orders for advance deliveries" of medicines and medical supplies amounting to over P1.2 million.

According to documents obtained by the INQUIRER, provincial treasurer Manuel Leycano Jr. accused Valentin Guidote Jr., the provincial planning and development coordinator, of entering into transactions without consulting the treasurer's office and other departments.

He said Guidote's action was a "total disregard of the existing rules and regulations as well as the procurement process involved."

In his letter to Gov. Teresita "Ningning" Lazaro dated Nov. 19, Leycano said as head of the planning and development department, Guidote is not authorized to enter into business transactions with any supplier and issue orders for advance deliveries.

"The sweeping allegations of Mr. Guidote... that all his actions... are upon instructions and with prior approval by your good office is untenable and would surely put us in deep financial trouble," he said in his letter to Lazaro.

Leycano said he discovered the alleged irregularities after four sales invoices from Careline, a medical supplies company, were given to his office for inspection.

He said that upon examining the purchase requests, he found that two of the four sales invoices did not have the signatures of requisitioning officers, pursuant to the Local Government Code.

He said all four transactions did not have any certification of fund availability from his office, which was a direct violation of the Government Auditing Code of the Philippines.

The invoices were used to acquire medicines and medical supplies for the Laguna Provincial Hospital and Jose P. Rizal Memorial Hospital.

The documents showed that the purchases were made from Oct. 26 to Nov. 17 this year.

When reached through his mobile phone for comment, Guidote denied Leycano's allegations saying all his transactions were authorized by provincial administrator Dennis Lazaro.

He said Leycano "was just making an issue out of nothing."

"This has been blown out of proportion. The issue should have been contained within the department concerned. But he never issued a copy of his letter to my office or even the administrator's office," he told the INQUIRER.

Guidote said Lazaro, as head of the Bids and Awards Committee, ordered him to make the purchase requests when the latter was still in the United States.

"If we waited for Mr. Lazaro to arrive, it would take at least one and a half months to get what we needed," he said.

But when asked if he got an authorization letter, Guidote replied: "I just asked him thru text message. He then authorized me to issue the purchase order thru text message." *Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Davao plans feast for poor for 1 month

DAVAO CITY—After all the belt-tightening and cost-cutting moves during the past months, the city government will spend everything it has saved to feed the poor and the hungry in a Yuletide evening eating binge that would last almost a month.

"*Walang magugutom sa pasko* (No Davaoeño should go hungry this Christmas)," Patricia Ruivivar, the mayor's chief of staff, quoted Mayor Rodrigo Duterte as saying.

"And I'm not talking here of just an ordinary '*lugaw*' fare. It's more than that," Ruivivar said.

Earlier, city tourism head Id Acaylar said the menu will consist of regular dishes from the local Halypin Restaurant here.

"We target as many as 20,000 people a day," Ruivivar added. The feeding program, which will open at 4 p.m. at the Rizal Park and last until the day's supply lasts, would try to prove there is more to the "bad boy, tough guy" image of the mayor and show that the city is committed to serving its people, according to Ruivivar.

She said the city government will use every centavo of its savings from the austerity measure this year to feed the poor.

Aside from the feeding station at the Rizal Park, the city will also put up mobile ones to reach the far flung districts of Paquibato and Marilog. *Germelina A. Lacorte, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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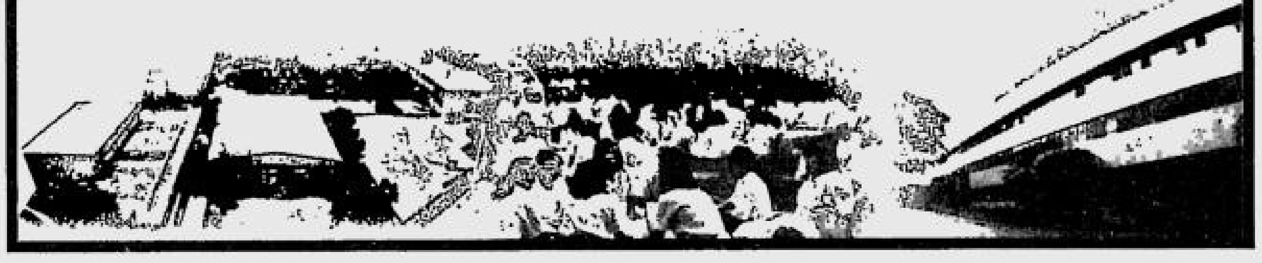

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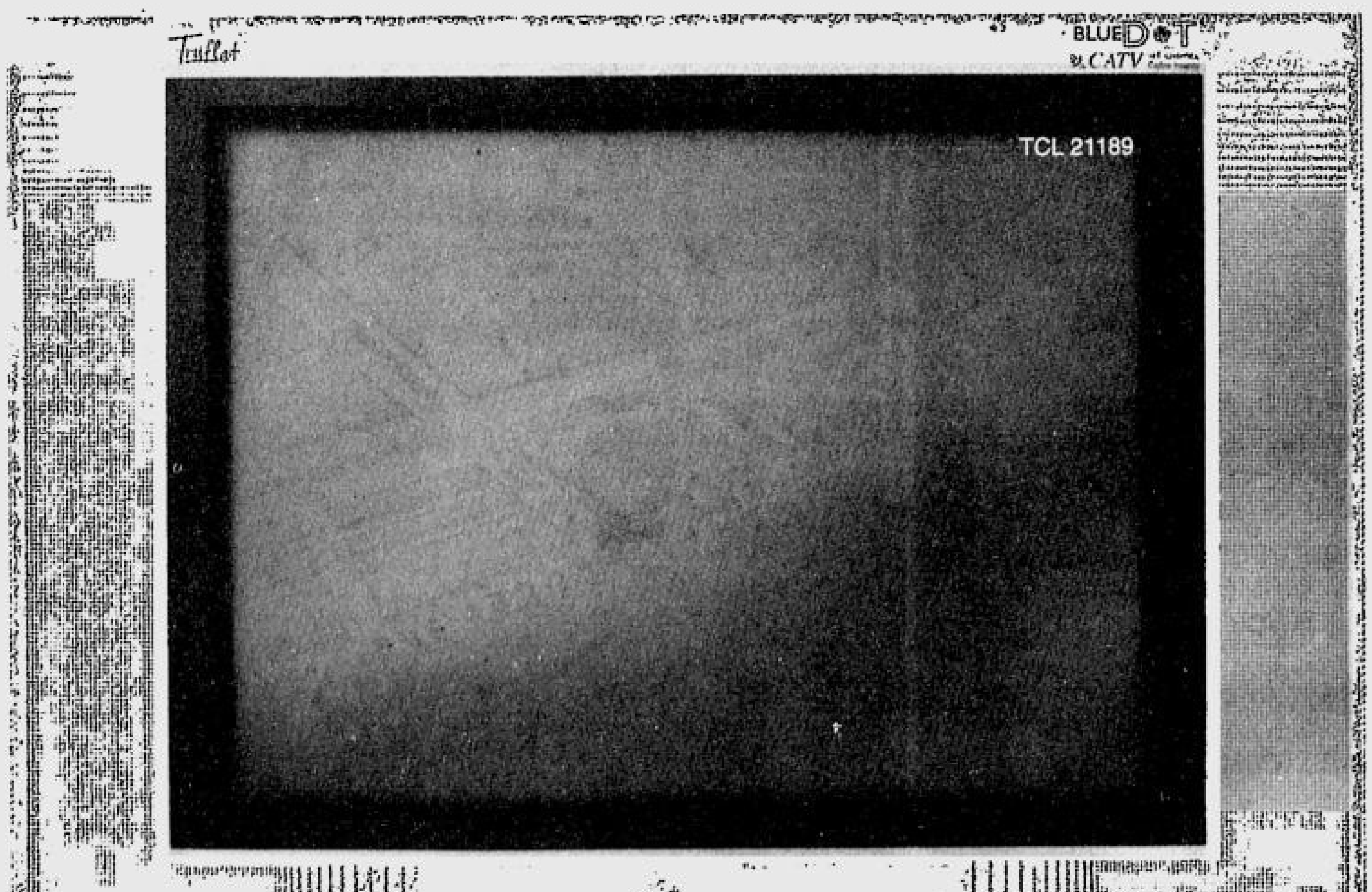

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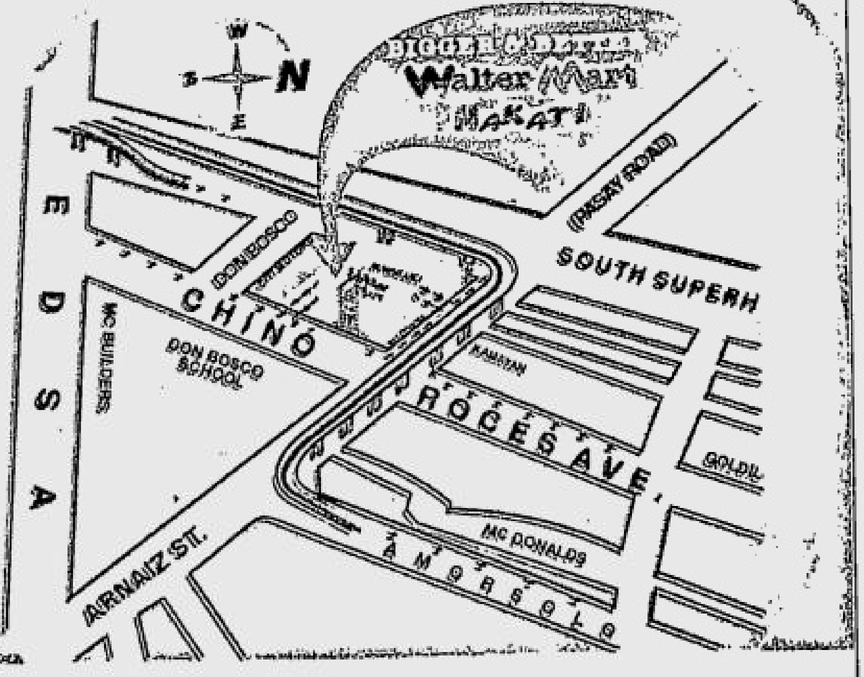

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NPA blamed for logging, landslides

From page A1

pus) the principal executive to lay out and implement a special operational plan—with the full support of the Armed Forces as I have just instructed (AFP Chief of Staff) Gen. (Efren) Abu to do—to stop the illegal logging activities, especially of the NPA and to take all their cohorts into account," the President said to the applause of the mayors.

Ms Arroyo earlier directed the AFP and the Philippine National Police to crack down on illegal loggers, whom she blamed for the landslides and flash floods that killed hundreds of people in Quezon, Aurora and Nueva Ecija.

"The insurgents should not be allowed to plunder our forests to raise funds to undermine our democracy. This is a matter of ecological balance as well as national security," Ms Arroyo said in her speech before the LMP, the association of the country's 1,495 municipal mayors.

His appointment as NRDC chair would be the latest twist to the colorful and controversial career of Corpus, who as a Philippine Military Academy instructor defected to the NPA in the late 1960s and became one of its top commanders.

He was captured in the mid-1970s during the Marcos regime but was released from detention by then President Corazon Aquino in 1986.

He rejoined the military and became an ally of Ms Arroyo after he joined other military officers in withdrawing support from then President Joseph Estrada in 2001.

Corpus, who retired from the service on Oct. 3, was appointed president of Bukidnon Forest Inc., a subsidiary of the NRDC.

But Ms Arroyo yesterday said Corpus would also chair NRDC, a government corporation attached to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Palace sources said Corpus had asked for one month before assuming his new post.

P2 per board foot

In Lucena City, the chief of the military's Southern Luzon Command in Camp Nakar yesterday said Communist Party of the Philippines and NPA rebels operating in the Sierra Madre were receiving at least P2 per board foot of illegally cut trees from illegal loggers.

"The illegal loggers are also in the mountains. They (CPP and NPA rebels) are collecting money from illegal loggers, otherwise the illegal loggers could not have survived," Maj. Gen. Pedro Cabuay, the head of Solcom, told the INQUIRER.

CPP spokesperson Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal scoffed at Cabuay's charges. "That's an old and rehashed issue. There will be a proper time to answer that malicious allegation," Rosal said in a mobile phone interview.

The CPP spokesperson earlier said the NPA would help the displaced typhoon victims rebuild their homes and their lives.

But Cabuay accused the rebels of hypocrisy, saying they could have stopped illegal logging had they cared about the forests and the people's welfare.

In Manila, Lakas Rep. Robert "Ace" Barbers said it would have been impossible for the loggers to operate in the Sierra Madre had the NPA refused to sanction their illegal operations.

"It is thus clear and as sure as the sun rises in the morning that the NPAs under Ka Roger are equally guilty of murdering the hundreds of people killed in the landslides," Barbers said.

"They cannot wash their hands of this case, which probably explains their deafening silence on the matter. They are quick to blame the government for the hardships of the people but cannot own up to the worse sins and deception they commit against the people. It shows you the kind of animals these criminals are," the congressman said.

Barbers said illegal loggers would not have been able to cut down trees and bring in heavy equipment into rebel-infested areas without the knowledge and consent of the NPA.

Complicity of gov't execs

The congressman, however, stressed he was not ruling out the complicity of corrupt government officials in illegal logging.

Barbers urged Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Mike Defensor to conduct an impartial investigation.

"Guilt lies somewhere. Answers are wanting. To allow this brutality to pass is like killing those people who lost their lives twice over. I do not want to sound like a broken record, but this has to stop now," he added.

With reports from Cynthia D. Balana in Manila, and Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

UK Prince Andrew arrives in RP to howling welcome

From page A1

ahead of "Yoyong," the most powerful typhoon to hit the country this year.

Prince Andrew, the second son and third child of Queen Elizabeth II, also known as the Duke of York, is in the country for a three-day official visit in his capacity as the UK's special representative for International Trade and Investment.

PRINCE ANDREW JOSEPH AGCAOILI

Under wraps

Apparently, his arrival was kept under wraps. Press officials at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport and the Philippine Air Force said they were not informed about his arrival. They also did not receive any request for arrival honors for the prince. Not in the fairest of weather.

After his arrival, Prince Andrew was driven to the British ambassador's residence in North Forbes Park in Makati City.

At around 6:30 last night, the prince was set to lead the launching of the coffeetable book "The British Legacy to the Philippines: 425 Years of Philippine-British Relations."

The press was invited for a photo opportunity but not to the private reception that followed. The book's author, Bing Carrion-Buck, was to present the first copy of her work to the prince.

Call on GMA

During his visit, the duke is scheduled to call on President Macapagal-Arroyo, Trade Secretary Cesar Purisima and Energy Secretary Vincent Perez, among other government officials.

The visit aims to strengthen commercial and security relations between the UK and the Philippine governments.

"He's coming despite the inclement weather. We have not received any advisory that he was canceling his trip," Karen Jimenez, public affairs officer of the British Embassy in Manila, said in a phone interview earlier in the day.

She, however, declined to disclose details of his flight in deference to Malacañang, which arranged his visit.

3rd visit

This is the duke's third visit to Manila after his visits in December 1996 and May 2001, the embassy said.

"What's different about his visit is that he's coming here as a special representative for international trade and investment," Jimenez said.

The Duke of York was the first child to be born to a reigning British monarch in 103 years.

Named Andrew Albert Christian Edward, he was known as Prince Andrew until his marriage to Sarah Ferguson, when he was designated the Duke of York, Earl of Inverness and Baron Killyleagh, according to the British Embassy.

The tumultuous marriage was a favorite tabloid fare until the couple divorced.

RP could be world's 5th mining power, says GMA

From page A1

But a group of scientists in Metro Manila as well as bishops and mayors in Samar said mining could result in more flash floods and environmental degradation.

"We are poised for a strong economic takeoff never seen in the recent past," the President said in a speech before the Mayors' League at the Manila Hotel. "We should not be poor."

Ms Arroyo mentioned the country's ranking based on deposits of its precious metals—No. 3 in gold, No. 4 in copper, No. 5 in nickel and No. 6 in chromite deposits.

She got the numbers after an interaction with the prime ministers of mining countries—Canada and Australia—whose companies have been waiting for a favorable Supreme Court decision to pursue their exploration projects in the country.

"Our mining potential is ten times our annual gross national product. It can easily wipe out our foreign debts and yet leave more for future generations," the President said.

The National Economic and Development Authority (Neda) estimated the country's mineral deposits potential at P47 trillion, or 10 times the country's annual gross domestic product and 15 times the foreign debt.

Multiplier effect

Neda said the country's mining sector had the potential of contributing P1.8 trillion annually to the country's economy because it has been opened to foreign investments. The P1.8 trillion is equivalent to 36 percent of the country's gross domestic product.

"Mining has a multiplier effect of six times. A policy decision to rebuild the mining industry would open its enormous economic potential," said Neda Director General Romulo Neri.

Neri was referring to the decision of the Supreme Court made last Wednesday, which said the law liberalizing the country's mining industry was constitutional.

The high court decision reversed its earlier ruling that the law allowing foreign players in the local mining sector was unconstitutional.

The country's chief economist said the court decision would keep the country on track to meet its Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP). The plan calls for the country's mining sector to generate $4 billion to $6 billion in investments, $5 billion to $7 billion in annual foreign exchange, and at least 240,000 jobs in the next six years.

Rapid environmental degradation

The Samahan ng Nagtataguyod ng Agham at Teknolohiya para sa Sambayanan (Agham), however, does not share the optimism of Ms Arroyo and Neda.

Agham said the Supreme Court and the Arroyo administration were ignoring the effects of mining on the environment and the people.

Dr. Giovanni Tapang, chair of the militant scientists' group, said foreign corporations had caused rapid environmental degradation in the country.

"The large-scale plunder of our natural resources result in areas that are susceptible to environmental imbalance," he said.

"Take the case of the flash floods in Quezon and Aurora due to the recent typhoons. It was large-scale logging that contributed largely to the instability of the soil there," Tapang said.

Calbayog Bishop Jose Palma said mining would degrade the forests and poison the rivers, leaving the towns vulnerable to disasters.

"We have seen the destruction wrought by mining. We have seen Ormoc (Leyte). We fear an equal or worse disruption if mining is allowed," Palma said, recalling the flash floods in Ormoc that killed at least 2,000 people.

Another bishop, Most Rev. Angel Hobayan of Catarman, recalled how two rivers in Samar overflowed and submerged two towns for an entire week due to the degradation of the surrounding forests.

Largest bauxite deposit

Samar is known to have the country's largest deposits of bauxite, a base mineral for aluminum which is the third most in demand mineral in the world today, environmentalist Melchor Nacario said.

He revealed that there were 41 applications from mining firms to explore Samar, including municipalities that had been declared protected areas.

Local officials and religious leaders in Samar's 25 municipalities have questioned the permits given to two local firms to explore protected areas in the region last year.

"We feel that the government has sold the birthright of the people because the people have become poorer ... Why should the foreign mining firms now benefit from what is ours?" Palma said.

"The people have suffered enough and have been left out in so many ways," he added.

Among the most popular municipalities for exploration are San Jorge, San Jose de Buan, Gandara, Matuginao, Paranas and Motiong. San Jose de Buan, which is often the target area of mining firms, is in the center of the island and is connected to two rivers that flow into other towns.

"If you destroy it, you contaminate the rivers and spread poison into the other towns, and the rivers are the people's main source of water," Nacario said.

Reason not good enough

San Jose de Buan is known for its huge bauxite deposits. The bauxite deposits can be retrieved only through open-pit mining, which requires a clearing of the forest.

San Jorge Mayor Joseph Grey said that even the employment opportunities being mentioned by the government were not a good enough reason to allow mining in the region. Grey said that most workers in the mines received only a P100 daily wage.

Local officials and bishops in the region are pushing for the passage of House Bill No. 2925, which seeks to create the Samar Island Natural Park and declare 333,000 hectares a protected area and another 125,400 hectares a buffer zone.

The bill had been filed at least twice but it had never gotten past the committee hearings.

Sound mining practices

In her speech, the President assured the public that mining should not be feared but embraced because it would "discourage the poor from ravaging just to survive and mitigate the deadliest disasters."

She said the government was committed to "fully enforce responsible and environmentally sound mining practices" to ensure the safety of workers and the preservation of natural resources.

"We are now in the 21st century and all these new mining technologies will certainly make our mining sustainable," said the President.

She noted that host communities would benefit from the entry of mining firms that would pay taxes and duties to the provincial government down to the barangay levels.

Mining is the only sector that could generate investments and dollar exports that would enable the government to achieve an economic growth rate of at least 7 percent in the medium term, according to a foreign think tank associated with The Economist.

Now's is the time

The Philippine Business Leaders Forum also noted that the high court reversal of its previous ruling limiting mining to Filipinos could not have come at a better time.

"Now is the time. Copper and gold prices are at the highest for several years and India and China are predicted to keep copper prices high through the next decade," the Forum said.

With a report from Norman Bordadora

ADVISORY

We, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND THE THOUSANDS OF AGRO-ENTREPRENEURS OF GOOD HARVEST ORCHARDS MARKETING CORPORATION are elated to underscore the fact that the ex-parte Cease and Desist Order (*issued motu propio and inspite of the absence of a single complainant to date.*) issued earlier by the Securities and Exchange Commission, by mandate of law is now AUTOMATICALLY LIFTED, pursuant to Sec. 64.3 of the Securities Regulations Code which provides:

"Any person against whom a cease and desist order was issued may, within five (5) days from receipt of the order, file a formal request for a lifting thereof. Said request shall be set for hearing by the Commission not later than fifteen (15) days from its filing and THE RESOLUTION THEREOF SHALL BE MADE NOT LATER THAN TEN (10) DAYS FROM THE TERMINATION OF THE HEARING. IF THE COMMISSION FAILS TO RESOLVE THE REQUEST WITHIN THE TIME HEREIN PRESCRIBED, THE CEASE AND DESIST ORDER SHALL AUTOMATICALLY BE LIFTED."

Truly, the business of GOOD HARVEST which involves the *sale of its product - a mango tree coupled with appropriate orchard and farm services* IS NOT a business in the form of securities. IT IS NOT a business which involves the sale of investment contracts.

IT IS, however, **A MULTI-AWARDED BUSINESS** which can, by way of its product's Destined End, **ELEVATE THE LIVES OF FILIPINOS** and **ALLEVIATE POVERTY** by creating more Agro-Entrepreneurs, jobs, businesses and livelihood opportunities for our fellow Filipinos - knowing fully well that mango exports plays a vital role in our country's economy.

IT IS A BUSINESS WHICH PROTECTS THE ENVIRONMENT by reforesting hectares upon hectares of denuded forests with mango trees. For generations to come, these mango trees will help provide a better environment for the thriving communities around our orchards.

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The **AUTOMATIC LIFTING**, by virtue of Sec. 64.3 of the Securities Code, of the **CDO** levied against us will once again allow us to push forth with our noble ideals as a company and as socially responsible entrepreneurs. We have a lot of work ahead of us to realize the dream and aspirations we hold dear for our people and our country.

THE MANAGEMENT, STAFF AND THE THOUSANDS OF GOOD HARVEST AGRO-ENTREPRENEURS

"Let us not be weary in doing GOOD, for at the proper time, we will reap a bountiful HARVEST if we do not give up." (Galatians 6:9)

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Farmer buries dreams with first son

From page A1

les, a small wiry man who has been farming the Sierra Madre mountain range looming above Real for decades.

"It is God's will. I haven't seen anything quite like it before. We were lucky to be alive," he said, adding that his wife was being cared for by his other child, a 10-year-old girl, in a safe place farther up the highway.

Guava tree

Seles said he would return to recover his son's body when the weather clears. His only landmark for the grave is a small guava tree that had survived strong winds overnight.

More than 900 people were confirmed dead or missing after massive floods and landslides struck the Philippines this week, the military said yesterday.

An Army tally at a field operations center in Real listed 484 bodies recovered and 352 missing in the adjacent towns of Real, Infanta and General Nakar—the worst hit by storms that battered Luzon in recent days.

The Office of Civil Defense in Manila listed 48 people dead and 38 missing elsewhere, for a national total of 532 dead and 390 missing.

Blocked by boulders

As Seles grieved over his son, men and women were digging through mud where three people were believed to be buried.

Tractors and bulldozers were nearby, struggling to clear debris that had blocked the main highway to the center of town, where many more bodies were believed lying in a state of decomposition.

The mountain highway to Real remained blocked by huge boulders that had been washed down by floods. In one section near Seles' home, half of the road had turned into an unstable cliff strewn with logs.

Water cascading from the slopes had transformed a brook into swollen rapids.

Soldiers and journalists struggling to reach the town center by road passed a small brick house perilously perched on a cliff.

But the family refused to leave. "We don't have anywhere else to go, anyway, and inside it's still warm," said the father, who refused to give his name, but offered everyone boiled cassava.

For the disaster, Seles blamed lumber companies that were operating illegally on the mountain.

"What I can say is that it is illegal. Please stop it. People are dying," he said.

But he was quick to defend slash-and-burn farmers: "We only farm to live and eat, not to destroy the mountain."

97 bodies

Volunteer rescue workers in the village of Tignoan, on Real's outskirts, said they had unearthed 97 bloated bodies so far from a beach house that was serving as an evacuation center and was buried by a mudslide on Monday.

More than 100 residents had sought refuge there to escape the rising floodwaters.

"We are digging with spades and our bare hands" because heavy equipment could not get through collapsed bridges and roads buried by landslides, said Mario Nanola, the team leader.

Nanola and a dozen members of the team temporarily pulled out early yesterday to fetch food for the others.

"There are no body bags available. The stench is unbearable," Nanola told AFP.

He said he had heard from survivors that more bodies were floating on the coast.

Cultural situation

Grieving survivors had been told to bury their dead swiftly to prevent possible disease outbreaks.

"As much as possible, the bodies should be buried as soon as possible," Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit said in a TV address yesterday.

"But we're sensitive to the cultural situation and many do not want them buried until they can identify their loved ones. In that sense, we have sent lime, which can help as a preservative and prevent the smell," he said.

Nevertheless, "because of the wide area of the damage," Dayrit said it was likely there would not be enough chemicals to go around, and therefore "local officials should call the shots depending on the situation as far as the burial of the bodies" was concerned.

Dayrit said his recommendations were part of "operations for preventive measures, particularly epidemic control," in the face of Typhoon "Yoyong."

Sick and hungry

"Food, lots of food and lots of medicine for the sick and the hungry" are what Real Mayor Arsenio Ramallosa said he would request President Macapagal-Arroyo to send the moment she sets foot in his devastated town.

"We no longer have food. My sick and hungry town mates, mostly children, are getting worse every minute. May President Arroyo help us before it's too late," he told the INQUIRER yesterday in a satellite phone interview.

When told that the President was scheduled to visit the area yesterday, Ramallosa said he was "ecstatic." He said he would immediately order a spot cleared on the school grounds as a landing spot for Ms Arroyo's helicopter.

Prioritize clearing of roads

He said the last time they received relief goods was on Nov. 30 and that the supply had been consumed since Dec. 1.

Ramallosa said the National Food Authority in Infanta had agreed to loan Real 500 sacks of rice.

"But the roads between our towns are still difficult to traverse. What I have received is only a part of the total number of sacks allotted to us," he said, adding:

"The government should give priority to the clearing of our roads for the speedy delivery of relief goods. There are still huge logs blocking the highway."

No more food to sell

In a radio interview, Real Councilor Beth Macasaet said almost all the stores in the town had no more food to sell.

"All their shelves are empty. They have offered all their food for free to their hungry town mates," Ramallosa said.

The mayor said they had yet to finish burying the 126 bodies in Real on Wednesday because it had grown dark.

He said they would continue burying their dead today. *Reports from Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau; AFP*

THE NATIONAL Disaster Coordinating Agency is a beehive of activity as workers monitor weather satellite images to track the path of "Yoyong." AP

IN THE KNOW

Pagasa's public storm signals

No. 1: Occasional rains and winds of 30-60 kph and intermittent rains may be expected in at least 36 hours. Coastal waters will be moderate to rough. Vessels weighing 1,000 tons or below will not be allowed to depart or leave for places which are under Signal No. 1.

No. 2: Moderate to heavy rains and gusty winds greater than 60 kph and up to 100 kph in at least 24 hours. Rough seas and coastal waters are dangerous to small seacraft. Only vessels of 2,000 tons and above are allowed to leave port.

No. 3: Winds greater than 100 kph up to 185 kph may be expected in at least 18 hours. Coastal waters will be very rough and dangerous to all seacraft.

No. 4: The highest alert level for super typhoons, with very strong winds of more than 185 kph, may be expected in at least 12 hours. The area under storm Signal No. 4 is very likely to be hit directly by the eye of the storm and damage can be very heavy.

Based on procedures formulated by the DepEd, classes in public and private elementary schools are automatically suspended in areas where typhoon Signal No. 1 has been raised by the Pagasa.

When Signal No. 2 is declared, classes in both elementary and high school are suspended.

Typhoon Signals No. 3 and 4 automatically suspend classes in all levels. *PDI Research*

SOURCES: PAGASA AND PDI ARCHIVES

AFP salutes barefoot . . .

From page A1

occupants before the rampaging waters of the Agus River could sweep them away.

Reyes said the team first recovered the children and quickly took them to the town's evacuation center for emergency treatment.

He said the team was able to find other residents with the help of their neighbors.

"Rescuing people in distress is part and parcel of soldiering. The job is nothing new to us," Reyes said shyly.

He said he and his men had barely slept and managed to keep awake with the help of steaming native coffee and a few biscuits.

Snappy salute

Reyes executed a snappy salute to all the military officials who were temporarily camped in the proposed town hall under construction.

Then he headed back to his men, to prepare for more search-and-rescue operations in other villages.

GMA braves weather to be with victims in Quezon

From page A1

her security officials, citing the lack of lodging facilities, prevailed upon her to return to Malacañang.

Use of own helicopters

Ms Arroyo has ordered the use of her own helicopters to help in rescue and relief efforts for typhoon victims, the PAF said yesterday.

Ms Arroyo, who was accompanied by Social Welfare Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Soliman, held a briefing with disaster officials to assess the situation and the local residents' preparedness, and to distribute goods.

Price monitoring

Earlier in the day, the President met with her economic managers in Malacañang to review the overall price and supply situations of basic commodities following the onslaughts of successive typhoons in the past few days—"Unding," "Violeta," Winnie and Yoyong—in many areas of Luzon.

Ms Arroyo ordered the Department of Trade and Industry and the Department of Agriculture to step up their monitoring of retail prices to ensure that traders did not exploit the calamities to jack up prices of rice, vegetables, fish, poultry and meat.

In a statement, Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye appealed to people living in the projected path of Yoyong to "act to minimize, if not preclude, casualties."

Help for displaced

Bunye also asked for assistance to augment government resources to help the displaced and severely affected.

All four helicopters of the presidential transport wing would be used in efforts to spot people who need rescuing and fly in relief goods, PAF spokesperson Lt. Col. Restituto Padilla said.

Presidential transport

One helicopter is already flying over the storm-hit town of Siniloan, "to probe and see if we can still conduct even on a limited scale, search and rescue and relief operations for our citizens there," he added.

The helicopter is "better-equipped with complete avionics on board," allowing it to fly in areas where other helicopters cannot operate, to find areas where aircraft might still be brought in, Padilla said.

Three other presidential helicopters are on standby for any emergency flights along with three military UH-1H choppers, he added.

Isolate towns

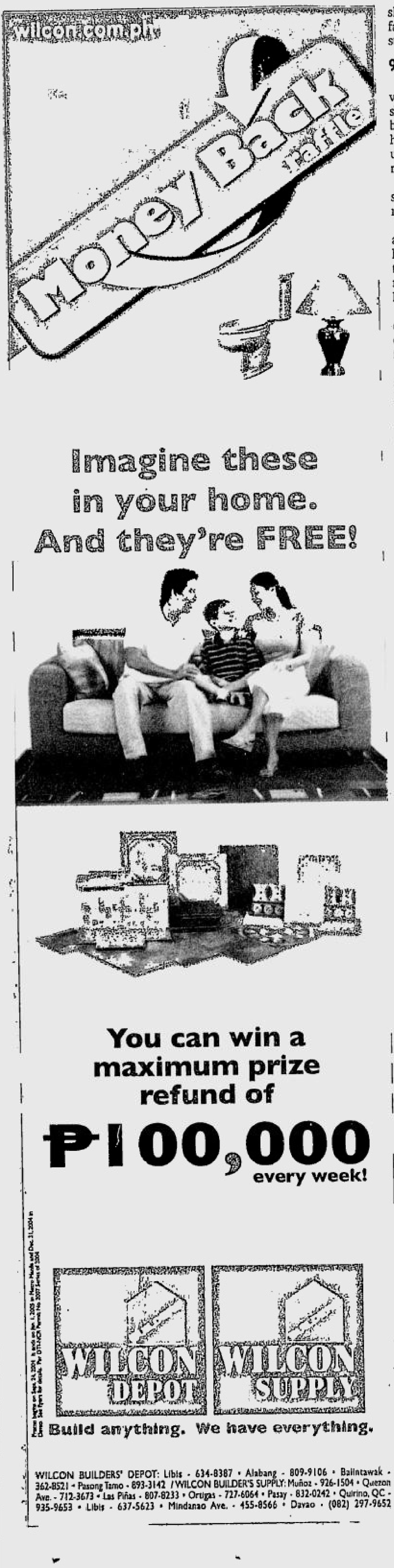
Padilla said military officials were still "evaluating our options for renewed air operations" amid worsening weather conditions as Yoyong was within hours of striking the same areas.

Some of the worst-hit towns have been isolated from vehicles by landslides and fallen bridges while rough waters have prevented most boats from reaching them.

Padilla said the Air Force might have to curtail its flights as the typhoon approaches.

Ms Arroyo had previously authorized the use of the infrequently utilized presidential yacht for rescue and relief efforts as well. *With an AFP report*

THE CHILDREN in an evacuation center in Pulilan, Bulacan, are in various states of discontent. REM ZAMORA



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Editor **Ester G. Dipasupil** ■ *Assistant Editor* **Cenon B. Bibe**

Devastated, yet thankful, Rodriguez evacuees ponder the future

By Luige A. del Puerto

OUT OF the water and onto the cold, damp floor. Away from their homes and into a crowded gymnasium. And they are the lucky ones.

They belong to around 100 families that had to leave flood-ravaged communities in Rodriguez (formerly Montalban), Rizal, which was badly hit by Tropical Depression "Winnie."

The evacuees, a number of them children, sleep on the floor, with only thin sheets of cardboard separating their bodies from the pavement.

Although in relative safety inside the gym just across the town hall, the cramped and crowded conditions expose them to diseases, mostly of the respiratory kind.

But for Daisy Ador, 33, of Barangay Rosario, facing an uncertain future is far more tormenting than the discomfort of living in a refugee camp.

What happens tomorrow?

After the sun rises and the storm passes, Daisy wonders what awaits her and her family.

"This is a lonely place," she said, looking at the cold floor. Elsewhere, children were playing, unmindful of their condition.

"But our house is gone. The flood left us nothing, just our clothes. Thinking about the future tires me so much," she said.

Daisy, her husband Julio, mother-in-law Margarita and daughter Judilyn managed to flee their homes before it was swept away. The family saw the water rising and immediately sought higher ground.

There was no time to salvage anything, except their lives.

The flood has reduced them beyond being poor. At least the poor have their belongings, she said.

"But what is important is that we are alive," Daisy said. "We thank God for that."

Despite their condition, the refugees are the lucky ones. Hundreds more from nearby provinces died in flash floods. Entire towns remain inaccessible: food, medicine and dry clothes cannot reach them.

Rodriguez Mayor Pedro Cuerpo said the refugees would be relocated to Erap City. They would not be allowed to rebuild their homes along the riverbanks.

Worst-hit villages

Most of the evacuees are from Sitio Sabah in Barangay San Jose and Sitio Libis in Barangay Rosario. A handful are from Barangays Balite, Geronimo, and San Rafael.

Food is not a problem. There are enough noodles and canned goods for everybody.

Local workers have also begun distributing vitamins and medicine, mostly for cough and diarrhea. There were also used clothes and blankets.

Several municipal doctors checked on the children and the elderly, admitting to a local hospital those who needed greater care.

President Arroyo briefly visited the Rodriguez evacuation center at about lunchtime Tuesday, condoling with families who lost members.

The families are holding a wakes inside the gym, where seven coffins rest on a stage.

In the villages of Burgos, San Rafael, San Jose, Geronimo, Rosario, Balite and San Isidro—villages ravaged by floodwaters—a lull in the weather. allowed residents to pick up what was left of their belongings, and clear their homes of mud, garbage and debris.

Many could be seen washing muddied clothes. Teacher Julie Ann de la Cruz, 24, was drying her record book and lesson plan on the pavement.

Several certificates, notebooks and textbooks were laid out to dry on a window pane.

OPERATION 'BIG BROTHER'

Metro mayors reach out to flood victims

THE MAYORS of Metro Manila's 17 local government units yesterday pledged to act as "big brothers" to cities and municipalities in other parts of the country severely affected by Typhoon "Yoyong" in the midst of their own disaster preparedness plans for their respective constituents.

"A lot of the LGUs in the metropolis, especially the big cities, have more than enough resources to extend assistance to the affected areas," Interior and Local Government Secretary Angelo Reyes said during the emergency meeting yesterday at the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) headquarters in Makati City.

Reyes said the mayors agreed to "adopt" a particular town or municipality from a list of affected areas provided by the DILG. The municipality of Taguig, for example, picked the town of Sta. Fe, in Nueva Vizcaya, a sister municipality, as its "little brother."

The DILG chief said they would get a clearance from the Commission on Audit to allow the LGUs to spend their funds on affected areas outside their jurisdiction.

Reyes also said he would call on other richer LGUs all over the country to "adopt a small brother."

Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay said their city council appropriated P8 million as aid to the province of Nueva Ecija. He said he would head a group of city officials to the province, bringing with them medical personnel, medicines, rubber boats, relief goods and clothes. Quezon City, on the other hand, promised to give P5 million.

Manila Mayor Lito Atienza said the move to help the needy towns and municipalities "touched a very warm chord in the hearts of Metro Manila mayors." A medical team would be sent to Quezon as Manila's contribution to overall relief efforts.

MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando, on the other hand, said the Metro Manila Council approved the utilization of the agency's P8-million calamity fund for the typhoon victims.

FISHING vessels, big and small, lay idle in Navotas after the Coast Guard barred them from setting out to sea due to the approach of Typhoon "Yoyong." The situation gravely affected the supply of fish at the Navotas Fish Port and has forced prices to skyrocket. ERIK ARAZAS

Valenzuela's city councilors had already informally agreed to appropriate part of its calamity funds to help the affected areas, said Mayor Sherwin Gatchalian. Rice, canned goods and other basic necessities would be sent to Quezon, he added.

Caloocan City would also donate P1 million to the DILG, Mayor Enrico Echiverri said. Navotas, however, will just send amphibian vehicles, from the 202nd Naval Reserve Command based in the town, and volunteers to help in rescue operations, according to Mayor Toby Tiangco, who added that they had already spent a big part of their calamity fund in flood prevention projects.

As storm signal No. 2 was raised in Metro Manila yesterday afternoon, classes were suspended in all levels, while government employees were allowed to go home in the afternoon. Some malls, like SM Megamall in Mandaluyong, closed down early evening.

In Rodriguez (Rizal), one of the hardest-hit towns, Mayor Pedro Cuerpo said food, clothes, medicine, and medical teams from private and government groups, continued to pour into the Rodriguez gymnasium, where at least 100 rescued families are staying.

Cuerpo said he had ordered barangay captains to tell owners of homes along the riverbanks to move to the gymnasium or the Amang Rodriguez Elementary School, where their safety would be assured.

In Marikina City, teams were sent to warn residents of Concepcion Uno, Nangka, Malanday, Tumana District and Doña Petra of the imminent danger of flooding.

The city has 20 evacuation centers. Since last Wednesday, Rescue 161 personnel, police and other city employees were on standby for rescue work. Mayor Marides Fernando said that they had asked families in low-lying areas to vacate their houses and proceed to any of the evacuation centers.

San Juan Police Sr. Supt. Rodelio Jocson, on the other hand, said they were monitoring areas near the San Juan River, especially Barangays Balong Bato, Batis, Salapan and Rivera.

The city has rubber boats on hand to ferry stranded residents.

Rizal police provincial director Sr. Supt. Leocadio Santiago said that, as part of the local government's preventive measures, they had evacuated 80 families from Brgy. Lupang Arienda to the Korean-Christian School. The area is flood-prone because it is near Laguna de Bay.

Some 1,000 families from Barangays Banaba, Dulong Bayan and Antig in San Mateo, Rizal, were also moved to higher grounds.

In Quezon City, more than 6,000 families living in flood-prone areas like Barangays Silangan, Tatalon, Sto. Domingo, and San Francisco del Monte were relocated to safer grounds upon orders of Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. who had mobilized the city's Disaster Coordinating Council to implement its disaster preparedness plan.

Disaster councils of the city's 142 barangays were also tasked to help in the city government's efforts to minimize the damages caused by the typhoon.

Belmonte also said 17 buses, trucks and ambulances are now standing by to respond to emergencies. The city's 94 public elementary and 53 high school buildings in the city are also available as relocation sites, the mayor added.

Meanwhile, in Manila, hundreds of families from the Baseco Compound in Port Area, and the adjacent communities of Parola Compound, Happyland and Isla Puting Bato in Tondo were evacuated to public schools, covered courts and sports facilities in the same district.

In Malabon City, police had already deployed five rubber boats to police precincts which have jurisdiction over flood-prone areas.

Families living along the shores of Laguna de Bay were evacuated to the Sucat gym in Muntinlupa, and churches, schools, gyms and barangay covered courts were also readied as evacuation centers.

In Pasay City, Mayor Wenceslao Trinidad spent the city's 141st founding anniversary directing its disaster coordinating council to prepare for Yoyong. Twenty garbage trucks were on standby in Parañaque City to rescue affected residents, while in Taguig, vehicles with public address systems went around town advising endangered residents to proceed to evacuation centers.

Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay said that, apart from the city's Disaster Coordinating Council now on a 24-hour alert, community kitchens would provide hot meals and distribute relief goods to affected residents. *Margaux C. Ortiz, Edson C. Tandoc Jr., Luige A. del Puerto, Ruth L. Navarra, Tina G. Santos, Tarra V. Quismundo, Nancy C. Carvajal, Carlo Mariano*

UP mass communication students to party for profs

By Margaux C. Ortiz

WHEN broadcast communication professor Angelito Tiongson succumbed to lymphoma two months ago, students and faculty at the University of the Philippines College of Mass Communication (CMC) were devastated.

As many expressed shock at Tiongson's sudden death, others worried about three more of their mentors suffering from similar life-threatening illnesses.

"The students were stricken by Lito's (Tiongson) death," said Josefina Santos, assistant professor at the UP-CMC broadcast department.

"Many cried, saying they failed to do something to help him," she added.

The college was rocked anew when Broadcast Department chair Rosa Maria Feliciano, former college dean Ellen Paglinauan, and Film Department instructor Joven Velasco took leaves from teaching this semester because of their illnesses.

FELICIANO

PAGLINAUAN

VELASCO

Feliciano, who teaches TV and radio production, was diagnosed with glomerilusnephritis or destruction with inflammation of the kidneys in 1996.

"It is only recently that her kidneys failed completely," Santos said, adding that Feliciano had her first dialysis in August 2004.

According to Santos, Feliciano underwent a kidney transplant early this week, spending P1.3 million for the procedure.

Retired professor Ellen Paglinauan, who until last semester taught at the college as a professorial lecturer, has been battling colon cancer for three years.

Paglinauan was diagnosed with tuberculosis of the colon in 2001 and underwent surgery this year.

Velasco, on the other hand, resigned from the college after suffering a stroke earlier this year. He is also suffering from diabetes, Santos explained.

"All of them, including the late professor Tiongson, had spent a great deal of money, even selling their properties to finance their medical treatments," Santos said.

She added, "Because of the university's low budget, the sick teachers have to use their own money despite having health cards."

For some UP-CMC students, Tiongson's death was the last straw.

"We felt both weird and sad because there were so many of our teachers falling ill," Jocelyn Fabello, a third year student, said. "We had to do something."

Fabello, of the BroadAss organization of which Feliciano was an adviser, said the college organizations agreed to raise funds for their sick mentors.

"We had been putting up fundraisers for different events, why not organize one that has more meaning?" Fabello said.

Fabello said they were organizing a two-week affair in February 2005 which included a fair, a unique search for Ginoong MassCom and a variety show.

The Ginoong MassCom tilt would subject gay candidates to challenges that would make them act straight.

Fabello said college alumni interested in giving donations could contact her at 373-0428 or 0927-6275554. They could also e-mail her at broadass_extecom@yahoogroups.com.

3 men, woman rob bank

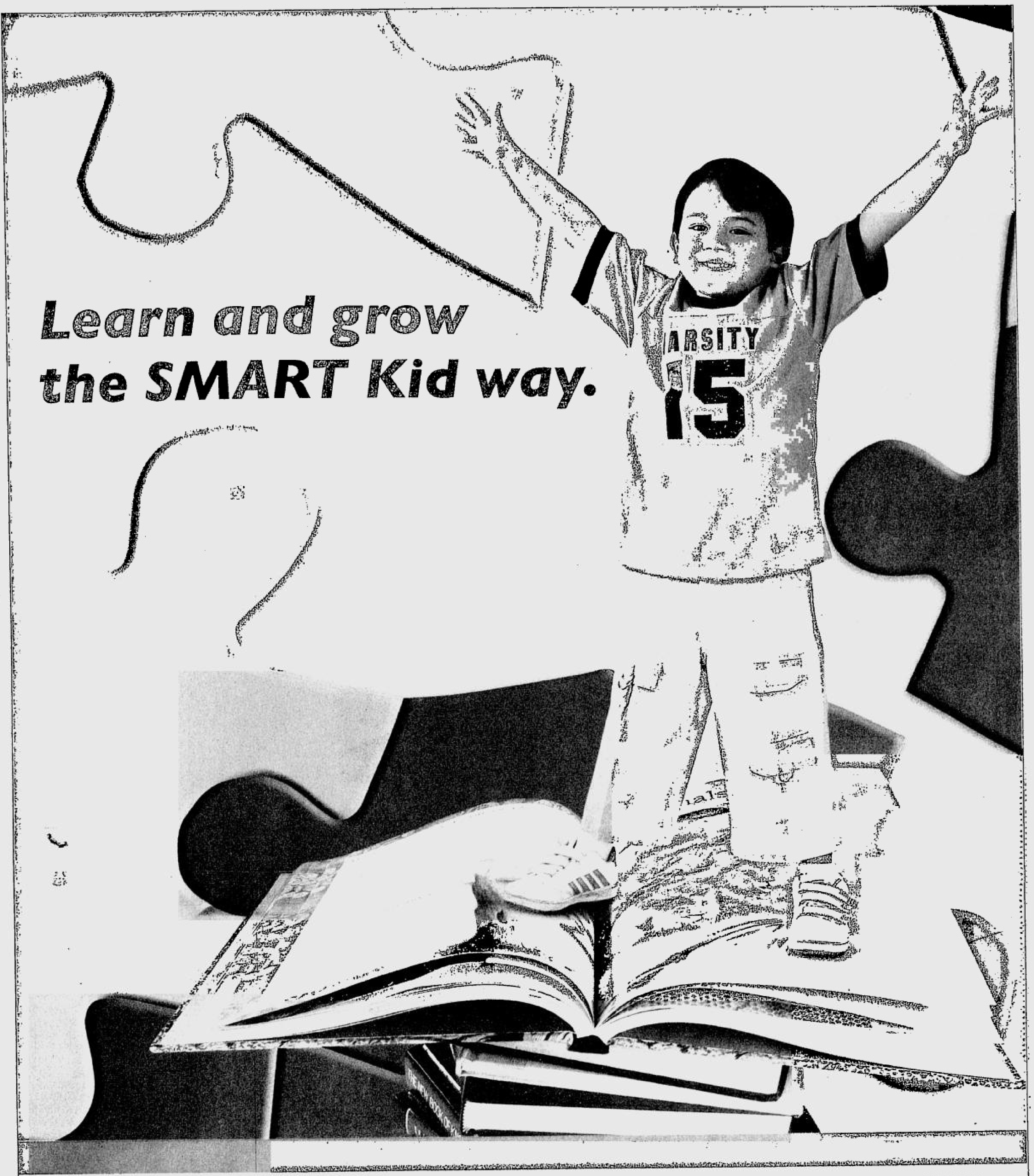
By Ruth L. Navarra

FOUR robbers, including a woman, robbed the East-West Bank branch on Shaw Boulevard yesterday morning.

The suspects struck at about 11:30 a.m. and took a still undisclosed amount of cash, said Sr. Supt. Raul Medina.

Medina said the group pretended to be clients, adding that the guard allowed them in because they were with a woman. However, as soon as they got in, they declared a holdup and disarmed the lone guard.

The suspects, who were carrying two handguns, fled on two motorcycles after the robbery that police said lasted for only about five minutes.



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US NCAA—Ohio State vs Clemson; 4 p.m.; Virginia vs Northwestern; 6 p.m.; ESPN—Get your fill of US college hoops the Big Ten's Buckeyes take on the ACC's Tigers while the Cavaliers face off against the Wildcats.

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Editor **Teddyvic S. Melendres**

WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Magic, Sonics torch foes; hot Suns burn Cavs /A28

■ Spain opts for teen spirit, junks Ferrero for Nadal /A31

■ Hingis returns in Volvo Open /A31

■ Defending titlists draw NCR; Cebu, Davao win /A30

NO. 2 SLOT ELIMINATOR

IBF sanctions Pacquiao-Fahsan tiff

By Salven L. Lagumbay, *Contributor*

IT'S NOW official!

The New Jersey-based International Boxing Federation has officially sanctioned the Dec. 11 Manny Pacquiao-Fahsan 3K Battery clash as an eliminator for the vacant No. 2 slot, with the winner assured of becoming the top guy should IBF champ Juan Manuel Marquez decide to rumble with current No. 1 Rocky Juarez in a mandatory defense.

PACQUIAO

IBF Championship chair Lindsey Tucker, in an e-mail message to this writer, said he has approved the application to sanction the 12-round rumble this week.

"I did approve Manny Pacquiao vs Fahsan 3K Battery for an IBF featherweight eliminator for No. 2. The request came in this week," Tucker told this writer.

The No. 2 featherweight slot in the IBF ranking is currently vacant.

Juarez, the top contender who is slated to vie for the WBC title soon, will defend the WBC Continental Americas featherweight crown today against ex-WBC champ Guty Espadas Jr.

Organizers of the Pacquiao-Fahsan bout recently announced that the fight would be an IBF eliminator, although they have yet to formally apply for approval with the sanctioning body.

Apparently, promoter Murad Muhammad's M&M Sports had worked hard to get the IBF approval so as not to disappoint the Filipino crowd and give the fight the importance it deserves.

Pacquiao and members of his team are slated to arrive in Manila on Sunday. They are scheduled to meet with event organizers and sponsors on Monday.

Muhammad will plane in via Philippine Airlines from Los Angeles today while Fahsan and hard-hitting compatriot Chaiyong Distar are expected Monday together with manager Jimmy Chaichotchaung.

Chaiyong, who owns 11 KOs in 12 wins against two defeats, will face RP and Orient Pacific Boxing Federation No.1 ranked super flyweight Z "The Dream" Gorres in the Pacquiao-Fahsan undercard.

Among the supporters of the Dec. 11 event are Smart, Talk 'N Text, Solar Sports, PLDT, Taguig Mayor Freddie Tinga and Discovery Suites.

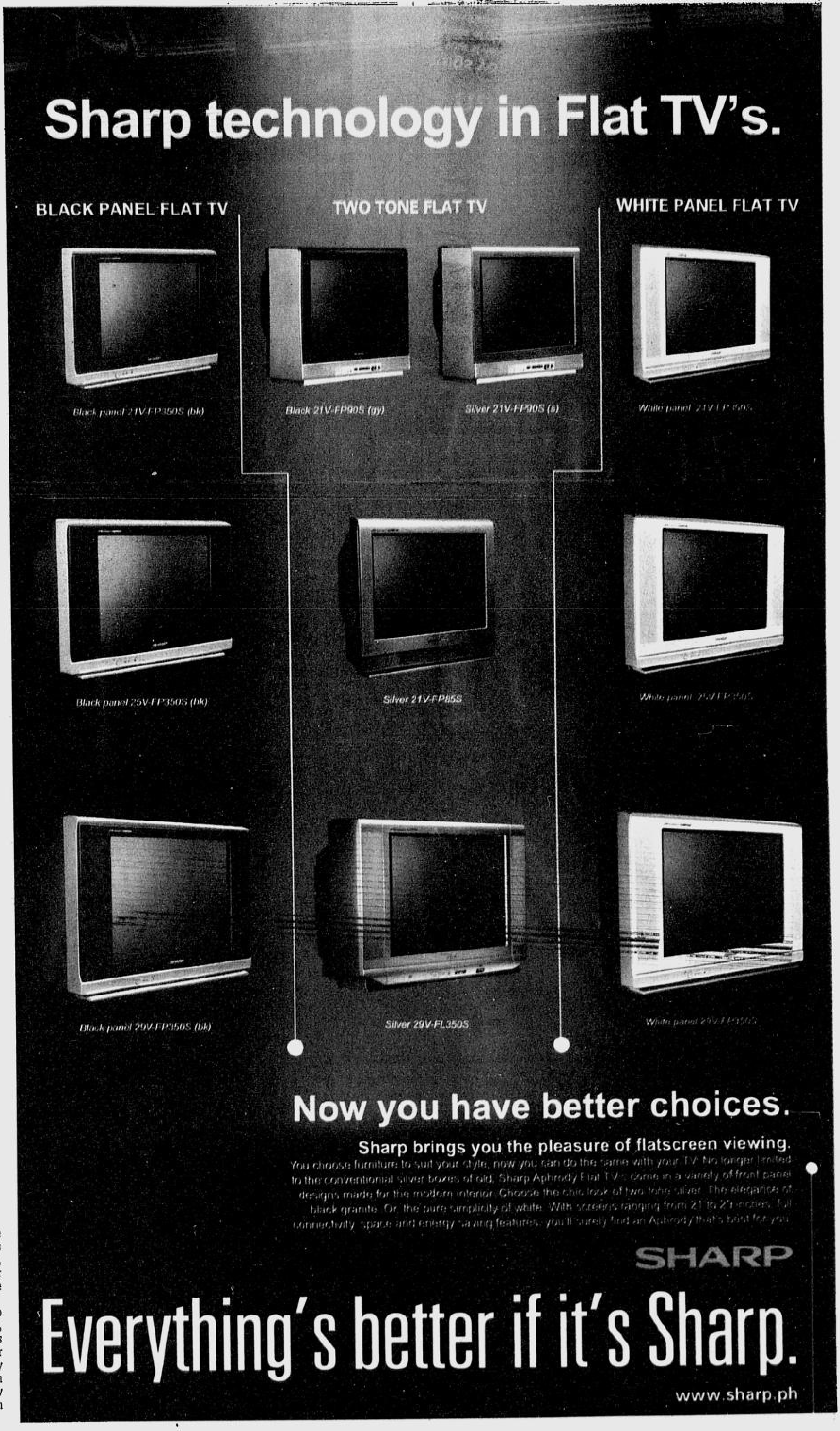
Mayol risks OPBF title versus Thai

WORLD Boxing Council No. 2 and Oriental and Pacific Boxing Federation minimumweight boss Rodel Mayol will be defending his regional title for the second time when he takes on a Thai challenger on Jan. 29 at the Casino Filipino in Parañaque, Manila.

MAYOL

The dynamite-fisted Mayol, considered by boxing pundits as one of the Philippines' best pound-for-pound fighters alongside Manny Pacquiao and Randy Suico, will use this titular defense as his preparation for a possible world title crack next year against the WBC 105-lb king.

The Mandaue City-based fighter, who fights out of the Stonewall Boxing Gym, boasts an unblemished 19 wins with 15 KOs and no loss since turning professional under the guidance of Cebu boxing patron Tony Aldeguer. He threw his hat into the paid arena following a bright amateur career which saw him become a five-time national champ with more than 120 fights.



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Hotdogs edge Tigers; PBA cancels games

STANDINGS	W	L
Talk N Text	10	2
Barangay Ginebra	9	4
Shell	9	5
*Purefoods	6	6
San Miguel Beer	6	7
Red Bull	5	7
FedEx	5	8
*Coca-Cola	5	8
Alaska	5	9
Sta. Lucia Realty	4	8

*still playing at presstime

GAMES SUNDAY *(Araneta Coliseum)*

4 p.m.—Coke vs Talk 'N Text

6:30 p.m.—Sta. Lucia vs Shell

By June Navarro

LIPA CITY—Purefoods weathered a stormy first half by leaning on Rey Evangelista and Kerby Raymundo to subdue Coca-Cola, 82-76, in the Gran Matador PBA Philippine Cup last night at the La Salle Lipa Sentrum here.

Evangelista came up with 13 points in the final half while Raymundo relentlessly made his presence felt in the middle as the TJ Hotdogs clinched their seventh win in 13 games.

The TJ Hotdogs won for the second straight time following their 84-79 conquest of the Shell Turbochargers, and moved to solo fourth behind Talk 'N Text, Barangay Ginebra and Shell.

Ali Peek muscled his way to 19 points and John Arigo chipped in 14 for the Tigers, who absorbed their fourth consecutive setback and ninth loss in 14 games.

Color developed at the end of the first half when Raymundo chased and blocked Arigo's drive and then taunted the Tigers' shooting guard.

The act triggered a heated exchange between Raymundo and Rafi Reavis as they streamed toward the dugout with the Tigers ahead at the half, 36-34, in the match sponsored by Lactovitale, the league's official food supplement.

Meanwhile, PBA Commissioner Noli Eala has canceled today's double-header at the Philsports Arena due to super typhoon "Yoyong."

The games pitting Sta. Lucia Realty against Red Bull Barako and Barangay Ginebra against San Miguel Beer are expected to be held as the last twinbill of the eliminations.

12 Days of X'mas

Meanwhile, the PBA launched its version of the Twelve Days of Christmas, a monthlong Yuletide treat the league is hosting for less-fortunate youngsters. FedEx and San Miguel opened up the event and hosted select youngsters from Haven for Children and Nayon ng Kabataan during their game Wednesday.

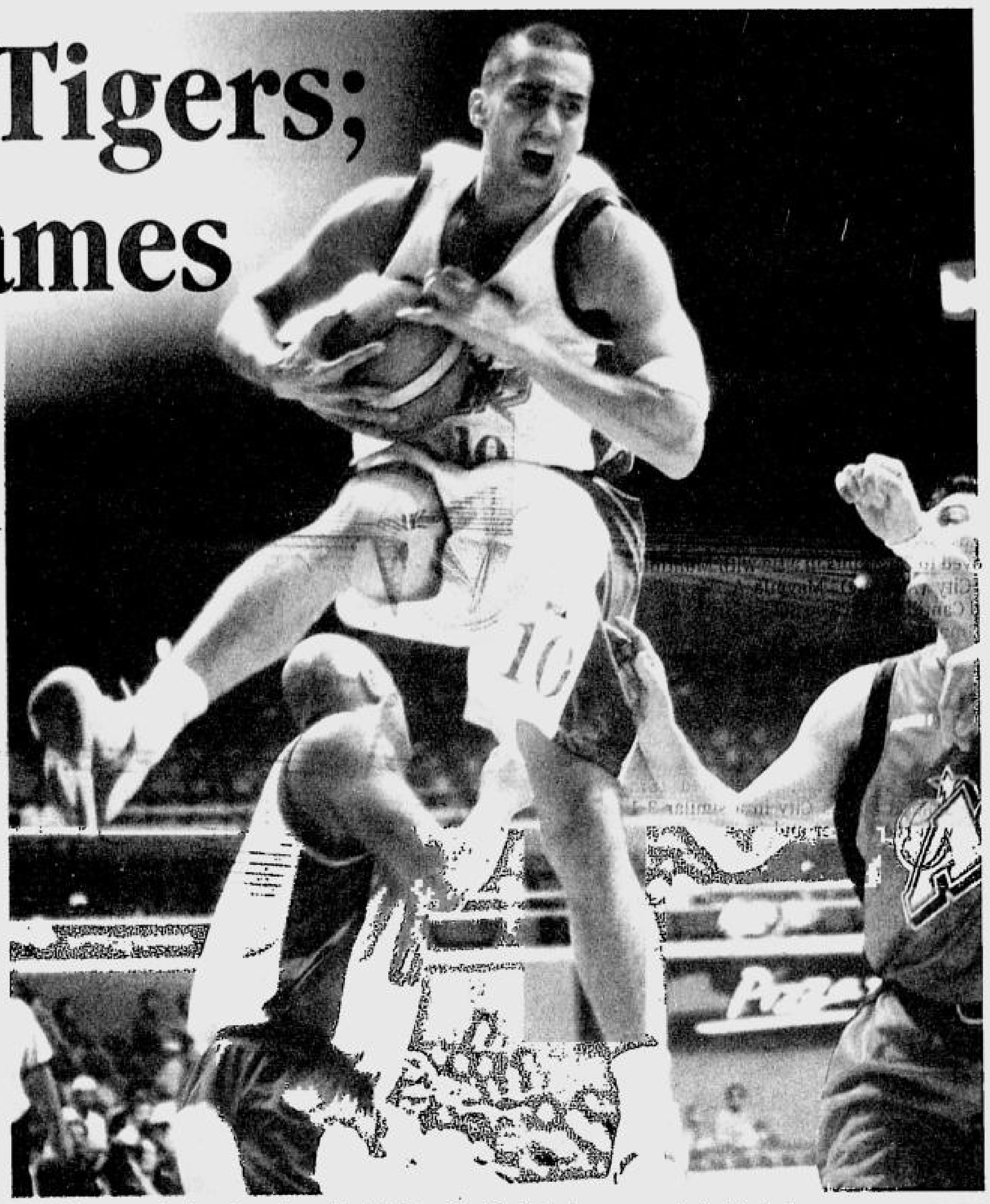
During halftime of each designated game day, 50 children from each institution will be treated to a Christmas night like no other: free seats to watch the games live, free food, autograph-signing and picture-taking opportunities with their basketball heroes plus tokens and special giveaways.

The scores:

PUREFOODS 82—Raymundo 17, Evangelista 15, Castillo 10, Hrabak 8, Yee 7, Artadi 7, Yap 7, Laure 6, Simon 3, Realubit 2, Espinosa 0.

COCA-COLA 76—Peek 19, Arigo 14, Avenido 11, Abarrientos 9, Antonio 6, Morano 5, Reavis 4, Juinio 4, Wainwright 2, Chia 2, Lao 0, Ramos 0.

Quarters: 18-19, 34-36, 54-56, 82-76



RICH Alvarez grabs the rebound over Alaska's Bong Hawkins in their game won by the Turbochargers. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

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Huskers subdue Snipers, tighten URBL finals race

STANDINGS	W	L
Ilocos Sur Snipers	4	1
M. Lhuillier-Cebu City	3	2
Quezon Coco Huskers	3	2
H. Centre-Pampanga	0	5

GAMES TODAY
(New Cebu City Coliseum)
5 p.m.—H. Centre-Pampanga vs Quezon Coco Huskers
7 p.m.—Lhuillier-Cebu City vs Ilocos Sur Snipers

CEBU CITY—Veteran Buboy Rodriguez drilled in a buzzer-beater to lift Quezon past Ilocos Sur, 96-94, yesterday as the Coco Huskers fueled their championship drive in the United Regional Basketball League (URBL) semifinals at the New Cebu City Coliseum.

The 6-foot-2 Rodriguez's heroics came after teammate Egay Echavez sank both his free throws off Mike Manigo in the last 10 seconds to freeze the count at 94-all.

In the ensuing play, Echavez intercepted an inbound by Harold Sta. Cruz and went for a quick jumper. He, however, missed his attempt.

Luckily, Rodriguez was at the right place at the right time for the rebound and fired the game-clinching basket that stalled the Snipers' outright entry into the best-of-five championship series

The Coco Huskers notched their third win in five gains and shared second place with M. Lhuillier, just a shade behind the Snipers' 4-1 record in this tournament sponsored by Lactovitale and Adidas in cooperation with URBL partner hotels Castle Peak, Holiday Plaza and Mango Park.

The Jewelers regained their bearing in the final period to oust Harbour Centre-Pampanga, 80-79, in the other game.

A three-way tie for the lead could happen if M. Lhuillier beat Ilocos Sur in the 7 p.m. main encounter and if Quezon prevail over Harbour Centre-Pampanga at 5 p.m. today.

Under such case, the three teams—Ilocos Sur, Quezon and M. Lhuillier—will wrap up the semifinal round with identical 4-2 cards and the quotient system will be applied to determine which two teams will engage in the titular showdown for the very first URBL plum.

The Snipers were actually up, 92-89, when Nino Marquez knocked in a basket to push Quezon to within 91-92 with 31 seconds left. Manigo provided the breather when he drilled in both charities off Marquez to keep Ilocos Sur up, 94-92, with 14 seconds to go.

In the ensuing play, Harold Santa Cruz missed two free throws off Larry Rodriguez as Egay Echavez came scooting down the court and exacted a foul off Manigo.

The Jewelers, drawing firepower from Bruce Dacia, Leo Bat-og, Jomer Rubi and Aldrin Ocañada, erected their biggest lead, 51-31, at halftime.

Billy Bansil presided over a searing rally that saw the Jewelers' advantage dwindle to only six, the last at 75-81 with 3:31 to play.

Marquez set a new URBL record for scoring 35 points, erasing the previous high of 27 held by teammate Arnold Booker. Rodriguez contributed 18 points

The scores:

First game

QUEZON 96—Marquez 35, A Rodriguez 18, Taguines 16, Echavez 8, Guerrero 6, Kong 5, Tierra 4, Booker 2, L Rodriguez 2, Ferrer 0, Tenorio 0.

ILOCOS SUR 94—Yu 20, Barbosa 16, Cardel 13, D. Mendoza 12, [illegible] 11, Sanders [illegible], Hardin 4, Hauschmayer 4, Rubi 3, Santa Cruz 2.

Quarters: 18-18, 45-47, 76-73, 96-94.

M. LHUILLIER 90—Enriquez 12, Dacia 12, Rubi 11, de Guzman 11, Bat-og 7, Ocañada 7, Smith 6, Laygo 6, L Garcia 5, Lumantas 4, Sampilo 3, Cañoneo 2, Aying 2, Marata 2.

HARBOUR CENTRE 79—Bansil 14, A Garcia 13, Llangco 12, David 10, Manalo 8, Bognot 7, Santos 7, Yambao 5, Dizon 3, Magpayo 0.

Quarters: 28-11, 51-31, 68-52, 90-79.

PBL Open, V-League elims postponed due to Yoyong

THE ALARM raised by super typhoon "Yoyong" yesterday prompted the postponement of the PBL Open Championship games at the Ateneo Gym and the Shakey's V-League's elimination at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

After classes in all levels have been suspended, both tournaments followed suit in the interest of public safety.

The PBL, has in fact, also called off games scheduled for tomorrow at the Pasig Sports Center with the office of Commissioner Chino Trinidad to announce the new playdates later.

Sto. Tomas, meanwhile, postponed its collision with San Sebastian in the fledging volley league also to a later date with the eliminations to resume as scheduled on Sunday, also at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium. *Musong Castillo*

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NATIONAL INTER-CITIES

Mandaluyong, 4 others share early lead

TAGAYTAY CITY—National Master Rolando Nolte defeated fellow NM Andrew Vasquez in 35 moves of a Sicilian Defense-Alapin Variation to lift Mandaluyong City to a 3-1 victory over Quezon City and the second round lead in the 2004 National Inter-Cities and Municipalities Chess Team Championships Thursday at the Tagaytay Sports Center here.

Rodolfo Panopio Jr. and Merben Roque also won over QC's Julius Sinangote and Deniel Causo, on board 3 and 4, respectively, as second seeded Mandaluyong improved to 2.0 points in a tie with Muntinlupa City (Alabang), Maynila A, Maynila B and Cantilfan (Surigao del Sur).

Grandmaster candidate Fernie Donguines beat Mandaluyong's top board player International Master Idelfonso Datu in 25 moves of a Reti Opening to prevent a shutout of seventh seed Quezon City.

Mandaluyong City, whose stint here is sponsored by Mandaluyong City Mayor Neptali "Boyet" Gonzales, defeated 15th seed General Santos City in a similar 3-1 victory in the opener and is scheduled to face 5th seed Maynila B in the third round.

Powered by GM candidate Ronald Dableo and NM Darwin Laylo, Maynila B beat 12th seed Manila (Philippine Navy), 2.5-1.5.

Maynila A, led by IMs Chito Garma and Barlo Nadera, nipped 9th seed Tanauan City (Batangas), 3-1; while Muntinlupa City (Alabang) of GM Nelson Mariano II and Fide Master Oliver Dimakiling clobbered 11th seed Calamba City, 3.5-0.5.

Cantillan (Surigao Del Sur), supported by Rep. Butch Pichay edged 14th seed Cavite City, 2.5-1.5. Grandmaster Rogelio "Joey" Antonio Jr. scored his second straight wins at the expense of IM-elect Emmanuel "Manny" Senador to enabled Tagaytay City A to forge a 2-2 standoff with 8th seed Marikina City.

IM Richard Bitoon and 11-year-old Wesley So drew with Marikiha's NM Ronald Llavanes and Macapagal Paguital, respectively, before Allan Macala pushed Marikina ahead with an upset of Jerome Balico on board 3.

Top seeded Tagaytay City A has 1.5 points, the same output of 10th seed Makati City (Primanila Plans Inc.), 3rd seed Dasmariñas (Cavite) and Marikina City.

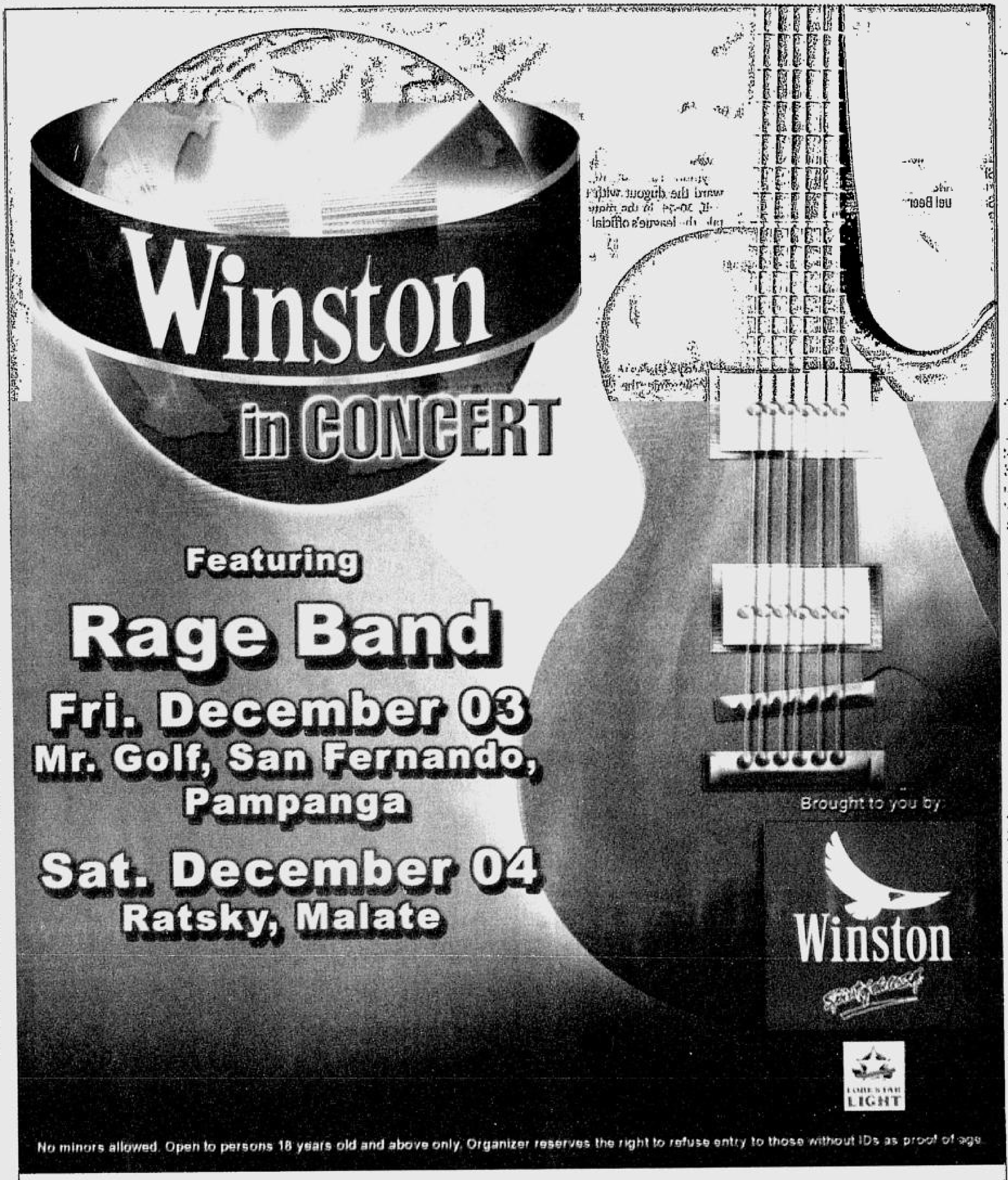
Primanila, bankrolled by NCFP vice president and Primanila Plans Inc. chair/CEO Eduardo Madrid, and led by 1996 Philippine Junior champion NM Roberto Suelo Jr., forced a 2-2 draw with Dasmariñas (Cavite), powered by IM Petronio Roca, in the tournament supported by the Tagaytay City government headed by Mayor Abraham Tolentino. *NM Marlon Bernardino*

Kiddies chess registration on

ORGANIZERS of the 2004 "Rimat Ti Amianan" Kiddies Chess Championships slated Dec. 18 and 19 in the City of San Fernando are now accepting entries.

Children born after Jan. 1, 1990 and who have not participated in the World Youth Chess Championships may join the six-rounds Swiss System tournament.

La Union Gov. Victor Ortega and San Fernando City Mayor Mary Jane Ortega, are sponsoring the event organized by engineer Joseph Dumuk. *NM Marlon Bernardino*



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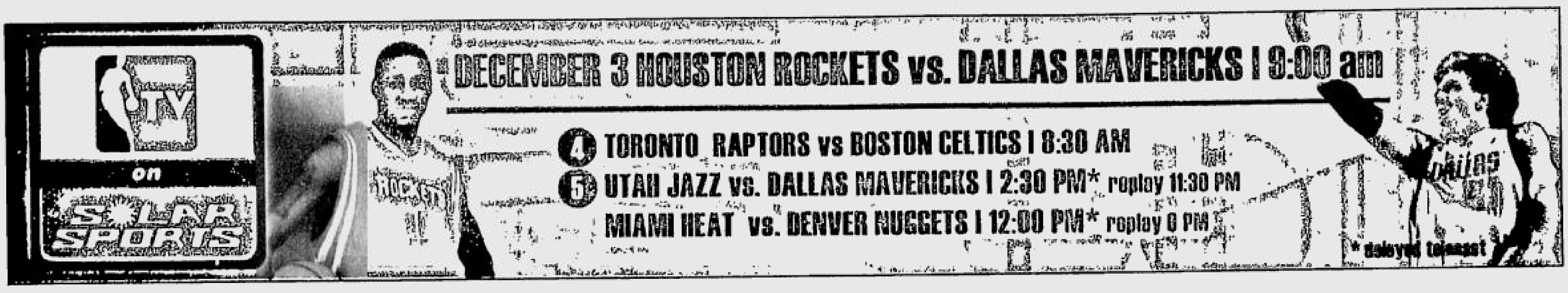

DECEMBER 3 HOUSTON ROCKETS vs. DALLAS MAVERICKS | 9:00 am

④ TORONTO RAPTORS vs BOSTON CELTICS | 8:30 AM
⑤ UTAH JAZZ vs. DALLAS MAVERICKS | 2:30 PM* replay 11:30 PM
MIAMI HEAT vs. DENVER NUGGETS | 12:00 PM* replay 6 PM

* delayed telecast

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Magic, Sonics torch foes; hot Suns burn Cavs

PHOENIX Suns forward Amare Stoudemire (left) celebrates his fast break slam dunk against the Utah Jazz with teammate Quentin Richardson during the fourth quarter of the game. Stoudemire scored 29 points as the Suns beat the Jazz, 115-102. AP

ORLANDO, Florida— Steve Francis scored 23 points, Grant Hill added 17 and the Orlando Magic posted the NBA's highest-scoring game of the season Wednesday with a 129-108 thrashing of the Toronto Raptors.

Eight Orlando players scored in double figures as the Magic shot 57.3 percent (51-for-89) and held a rebounding advantage of 61-32. Only three players didn't make at least half their shots.

Even Cuttino Mobley, sidelined the previous nine games with a groin strain, scored 16. Dwight Howard had 15 points and a season-high 20 rebounds—for his third straight double-double.

"I'm happy, but I'm not satisfied—it's too early in the season," said Howard. "I would love to get 20 rebounds in a close game, instead of a game that was out of reach for the other team."

Later Wednesday in Seattle, The Supersonics tied Orlando's scoring output in a 129-119 overtime victory over Utah.

Ray Allen scored a season-high 38 points, including nine in overtime, as the Supersonics overcame Carlos Boozer's career-high 36-points for Utah.

While the surprising Sonics improved their record to 14-3, the Jazz lost their third straight—and fifth in six games.

Best start

In Phoenix, Amare Stoudemire, Steve Nash and Quentin Richardson each scored 21 points, as Phoenix—off to its best start in 24 years—hammered Cleveland, 120-101, for its ninth consecutive win.

Joe Johnson scored 18 points and held LeBron James to 6-for-19 shooting for 15 points—11 under his average. Stoudemire scored 13 on 6-for-6 shooting in the decisive third quarter and Nash sat out the fourth while his backup Leandro Barbosa scored 13 of his 15 points.

The victory streak matched the sixth-longest in Suns' history and avenged one of Phoenix's two losses this season. The Suns' NBA-best record of 13-2 is their best start since they went 14-2 in 1980-81.

STOJAKOVIC: Crucial triple AP

Huge upset

In Chicago, rookies Luol Deng and Ben Gordon rescued Chicago in the fourth quarter and the Bulls held off a late charge by Kobe Bryant and the Los Angeles Lakers for a huge 92-84 upset.

Deng scored nine points and Gordon eight in the fourth quarter as Chicago got just its second win in 12 games. Deng and Eddy Curry led the Bulls, returning home after a seven-game road trip, with 18 points each.

Bryant scored 28, including 14 in the final quarter, and had 10 assists. Chucky Atkins added 19 for the Lakers.

In Boston, Paul Pierce had a brief argument with Boston coach Doc Rivers when he was lifted from the game, but returned and made a key 3-pointer that helped the Celtics nip Milwaukee, 101-100.

Pierce, who led Boston with 23 points, was lifted with just over 4 1/2 minutes to play and the Celtics holding a 92-91 lead. He returned and hit his 3-pointer on Boston's first possession, giving the Celtics a 97-93 lead with 2:40 to go.

In New York, Stephon Marbury made five 3-pointers in the second quarter to help put the Knicks ahead of Memphis for good in a 90-82 triumph.

The loss was the fifth straight for Memphis, and the fourth since the unexp resignation of coach Hubie Brow Grizzlies were in talks with Mike F to become their new coach, but n had been finalized.

Season-high

In Washington, Gilbert Arenas season-high 30 points as Washingto comed coach Eddie Jordan back 95-68 rout of his former team an New Jersey reeling to its sixth co tive road loss.

Jordan, 49, was hospitalized blood clot in his left leg on Thanks and missed two games.

In San Antonio, Tim Duncan sco points, including 17 straight in th ond quarter, to lead San Antonio to 72 trashing of Philadelphia.

In New Orleans, Brad Miller's 24 and some outside shooting by Jackson and Peja Stojakovic lifted mento to a 94-81 victory that ke Hornets winless at home.

The Hornets had a 20-point trimmed to nine after Lee Nailon handed follow of a missed 3-pointe a little more than nine minutes to 3-pointers on three straight Kings p sions—two by Jackson and one b jakovic—made the score 83-67 a but ended any realistic chance of th nets (1-13) notching their first hom tory in seven tries.

In Oakland, California, Sam C had 26 points, 11 rebounds and eig sists, and Minnesota rallied in the quarter to beat Golden State, 107- its third straight victory.

Choking anniversary

Exactly seven years after he chok mer Golden State coach P.J. Carlesi lowing a practice with the Warriors, Sprewell scored 15 points for Minne

In Los Angeles, Elton Brand sco points, Bobby Simmons added 20 a Los Angeles Clippers barely held whip the short-handed Indiana P 88-76, for their fifth straight victo

The Clippers have won five in a r the first time since November 1995. T time they won six straight was March The franchise record is 11, set in J 1974, when they were the Buffalo B

Pacers face brawl charges

DETROIT, Michigan—At least three Indiana Pacers players who fought with fans in a brawl at a National Basketball Association game in Detroit on November 19 will face assault and battery charges, the Detroit News reported on Wednesday.

The newspaper quoted police in Auburn Hills, where the Pistons' arena is located, as saying they expect the charges to be filed against Ron Artest, Stephen Jackson and Jermaine O'Neal, and perhaps David Harrison of the Pacers.

"Whoever was involved in fisticuffs will be charged, regardless if they were wearing a jersey," Oakland County prosecutor David Gorcyca told the Detroit News.

The fight between players and spectators broke out late in the fourth quarter after a fan hurled a drink at Artest, who charged into the stands, followed by some of his teammates.

Artest received the longest suspension in NBA history as he was banned for the rest of the season, including playoffs, for his role as the ringleader in what amounted to a riot.

An All-Star forward, Artest is serving what amounts to a 73-game regular season suspension. It is the longest non-drug suspension in league history, surpassing the 68 games Latrell Sprewell received for choking coach P.J. Carlesimo in 1997. *AFP*

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Grounded Rockets start feeling the pressure

HOUSTON—The boos were raining down, and a group of fans started a "Fire Gundy" chant that got louder with each second.

Houston Rockets coach Jeff Van Gundy gave a grim-faced nod to the fans calling for his ouster, then turned his attention back to his team's miserable performance.

It's been rough so far this season for a team that was supposed to be a top team thanks to an offseason trade for reigning NBA scoring champion Tracy McGrady. But McGrady and Yao Ming haven't clicked right away, and the Rockets are 6-10—their worst start since 1999-00.

"It starts with me," Van Gundy said Tuesday after the Rockets lost 93-72 to Detroit. "I'm going to get a group that looks like they really want to play. I just haven't provided that this year, and for that, I'm very apologetic to our fans."

Houston has lost four straight games overall, and five in a row at home. The Rockets have struggled to find rhythm on offense, made costly defensive breakdowns late in games, and have been consistently outhustled.

It's the league's oldest and most experienced team, yet one that too often looks feeble, slow and unathletic.

After the team's worst loss of the season Tuesday, many of the veterans in Houston's locker room wondered aloud if their problems went deeper than the obvious physical ones.

"We haven't found a direction," Yao said. "I just think we're very fragile."

McGrady came to Houston believing he and Yao could form an inside-outside combination that could replace Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant as the dominant duo in the NBA. Turns out, McGrady might be no closer to the crown with the Rockets than he was in Orlando.

"It's pretty tough for me, because I did go through a pretty bad situation last year," McGrady said. "To come here I thought it was going to be a start of a new beginning. Right now this is tough, because I really didn't expect for me to go through this."

Back in Orlando, former Rockets Steve Francis and Cuttino Mobley have contributed to the Magic's surprising 8-5 start. Last season, Orlando didn't get its eighth victory until late December.

Francis is averaging 20.4 points, seven rebounds, 6.2 assists and 1.3 steals a game. McGrady is averaging 20.2 points, five rebounds, 5.4 assists and one steal.

"They made a trade and put me with Yao, and everyone thought we would do well," McGrady said. "At the same time, it's tough to come into a different system and have to change your game. Right now, it's just tough for me."

The Rockets have gotten little from the other three players who came in the trade: forward Juwan Howard hasn't left the bench in the past two games, Tyronn Lue is the backup point guard, and second-year guard Reece Gaines has been on the injured list since the start of the season.

"We're just out of sync," Van Gundy said. "We're not playing with any effort at all." *AP*

Klitschkos fight for democ

LAS VEGAS—Vitali Klitschko begins his day an hour earlier than usual, waking at 6 a.m. so he can have some time before training for his heavyweight title defense against Danny Williams.

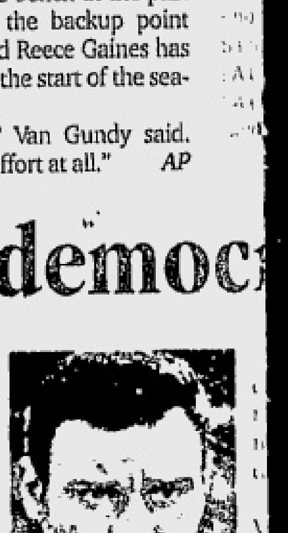
That's when he gets on the phone with friends and family in Ukraine, getting the latest news on the country's presidential crisis just as the sun begins to come up in Los Angeles.

One of the biggest fights of his career is less than two weeks away, but Klitschko is just as concerned over the fight for democracy in the country where he was born.

"We're Ukrainian citizens, and what happens is very close to us," Klitschko said. "I'm keeping focus for training and the fight, but it is also important what is happening in my country."

Klitschko and his brother, Wladimir, have been prominent figures in the protests that have paralyzed Ukraine since pro-Western candidate Viktor Yushchenko was declared the loser in an election many suspect was fraudulent.

They've made videos in support of democracy, and Wladimir spent four days last week in Ukraine among the protesters in the street. All the while, Vitali is getting ready to defend his WBC heavyweight title on Dec. 11 against Williams.



KLITSCHKO

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AP

Patrick McEnroe
Bob Bryan

UNITED The US Davis Cup team puts up a united front as they get ready to face Spain in the final. From left to right are Vince Spadea, Captain Patrick McEnroe, Mike Bryan, Bob Bryan, Mardy Fish and Andy Roddick. The finals will be played in Seville, Spain, where the host team has laid out the slowest clay court surface. AP

Estes takes helm of Australian PGA

SYDNEY—American Bob Estes shot a record-equaling nine-under-par 63 to lead the first round of the Australian PGA championship on Thursday.

Estes, 38, sank nine birdies in a flawless opening round at Coolum on the Queensland Sunshine Coast to finish the opening day a single shot clear of the field.

Craig Spence, the 1999 Australian Masters champion, returned to form with a 64, including an eagle at the par-five fourth hole, to hold outright second.

A group of seven players, including American Corey Pavin, the 1995 US Open champion, were tied for third at five-under-par 67.

Australia's former world number-one Greg Norman was among a smaller group a further shot back at four under par, and tournament favorite Adam Scott was seven shots off the lead after shooting 70.

"It was little bit of vintage Greg then a little bit of rust on Greg on the back nine," Norman said.

"I got off to a good start, my focus was good, but I drifted in and out a little and that was reflected in some of the shots I hit." *Reuters*

Padraig up in HK

HONG KONG—Defending champion Padraig Harrington and his Ryder Cup teammates Miguel Angel Jimenez and David Howell took the early lead in the Hong Kong Open with first rounds of 65 on Thursday.

Ireland's Harrington shot an error-free round as he began his title defense in style, and Briton Howell matched him with five birdies as the jointly-sanctioned European and Asian Tour event started in perfect conditions.

"I'm very pleased with this start but there is a lot of work remaining to be done," Harrington, the world No. 6, told reporters.

"It's great to begin this way and nice to get the adrenalin going.

Howell stormed home after shooting four of his five birdies on the back nine.

"It is very rare for me to have a bogey-free round and I'm absolutely delighted. The key was I made no mistakes and kept it in play all along," Howell said.

Spaniard Jimenez had one bogey early in his round but made up for it with an eagle at the par-five 529-yard 12th hole, his third of the day, and never looked back. *Reuters*

TOMMY HILFIGER
watches
NoCurfew

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

tic Division	W	L	PCT	GB
ork	7	6	.538	-
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go	1	10	.091	71/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

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phis	5	10	.333	7
Orleans	1	12	.077	10
west Division	W	L	PCT	GB
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esota	8	5	.615	31/2
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er	8	6	.571	4
and	8	6	.571	4
ic Division	W	L	PCT	GB
nix	12	2	.857	-
mento	9	5	.643	3
ppers	9	6	.600	31/2
kers	9	6	.600	31/2
n State	3	10	.231	81/2

racy too

Wladimir and Vitali have taken a leading role in recent months speaking out on the need for Ukraine to have democracy and free press.

Last week, Yushchenko called Vitali to thank him for his support, while Wladimir spoke on the streets to urge protesters on.

"Our father was communist, and I grew up with the old Soviet Union ideology," Vitali said. "It was brainwashing all the time. Right now I spend a lot of time in the West and I can see between West and East. I wish go the democratic way." *AP*

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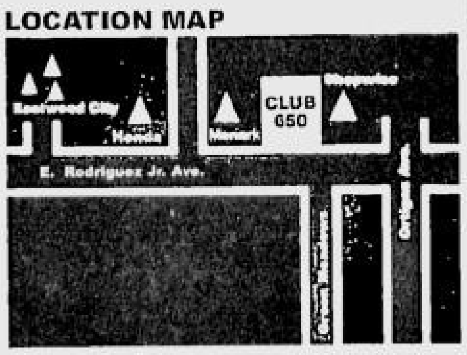

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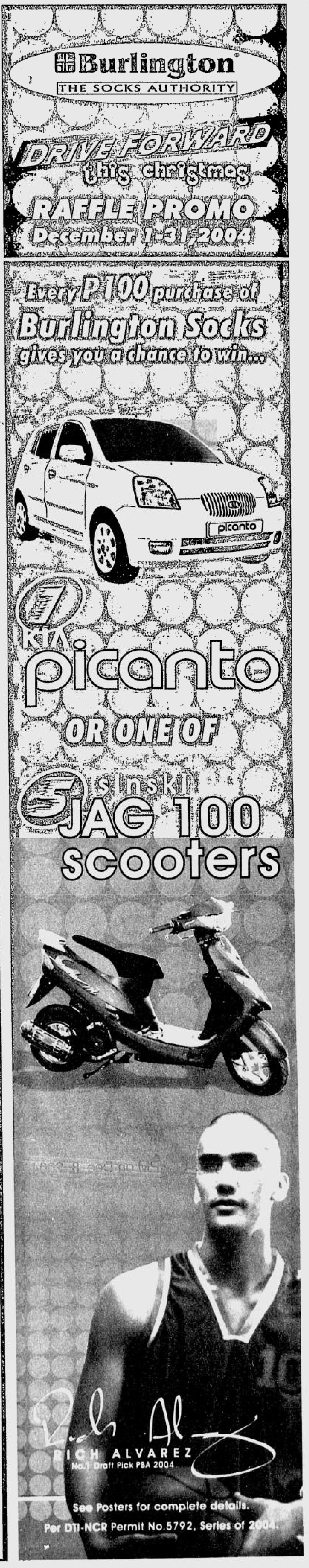

See Posters for complete details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No.5792, Series of 2004.

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Defending titlists draw NCR; Cebu, Davao win

DEFENDING champion Iloilo and the De La Salle University-powered National Capital Region squad raised their rivalry a notch higher after literally fighting to a scoreless draw in the PFF-Adidas National Under-19 youth championships at the University of San Carlos Technological Center.

Six yellow cards were flashed during the match with Iloilo bearing most of the brunt after Ruben Doctora and Relan Bretafia were seen off the pitch after collecting a second yellow each. Both players will miss today's big game against Davao.

Also given yellow cards from Iloilo were Robert Lecoto and Jhevan Calvo, while NCR's Rino Llures and Sean Gietayo were assessed one each.

The blow on the NCR squad, though, will be softened as reinforcements flew in yesterday to join the team today.

Meanwhile, Cebu City bounced back from a sloppy opening day performance and survived Dipolog City, 2-1, bolstering its chances to enter the semifinal round.

Cebu International School's Michael Sharpe cut through in the 80th minute to break a deadlock the Cebuano forced with striker Junard Aguilar's 72nd minute equalizer.

Vonn Gumela earlier put a lot of pressure on the hosts, converting a pass from Reggie Dukes against Cebu goalie Dominic Gallego for a 1-0 Dipolog lead.

Cebu now is second to Davao, which hiked its record to 2-0 after drubbing Baguio City, 7-0.

In the other game, Davao City came up with a sterling performance after blanking Baguio City, 7-0, as Israel Golocan banged in two successive goals in the 23rd and 26th minutes.

Marian Baring/Cebu Daily News

HOST Cebu needed a lot of grit to battle back from an early deficit and make up for a lackluster opening game in the Adidas Under-19 football championship at the University of San Carlos Technological Center. ALLAN DEFENSOR/CEBU DAILY NEWS

BAP wants more help from PBA

THE BASKETBALL Association of the Philippines yesterday sought the support of the Philippine Basketball Association for its other programs after going through the motions of approving the memorandum of agreement drafted by the pro league.

EALA: Everything went smoothly.

President Tiny Literal and secretary-general Graham Lim signed the MOA draft in behalf of the BAP board yesterday.

The MOA now goes back to the PBA Board of Governors for final approval.

"Everything went smoothly except for some minor corrections on the PBA's developmental subsidy for the BAP. Aside from the women's team, they want to give the PBA a leeway in supporting the other programs of the BAP too," said PBA Commissioner Noli Eala.

The developmental subsidy has a fixed rate, which the PBA and the BAP have yet to agree on.

Once the PBA board agrees to the minor concession during its regular board meeting on Monday, it will authorize Eala to sign the MOA with BAP officials.

Under the MOA, the PBA will take care of organizing, funding and fielding the country's national quintet to the 2005 Asian Basketball Confederation in Doha and the 2007 ABC in a bid to return to the world championship and the Olympic Games.

The PBA will also help prepare teams in other international tournaments except the Asian Games campaign, which has been given to longtime BAP backer Cebuana Lhuillier.

Besides the MOA and a couple of administrative issues, the PBA board will also tackle the The issue of foreign-born players, specifically the tenure and status of those already playing in the professional league.

June Navarro

GTK confirmed project director for ABC hosting bid

THE EMBATTLED Basketball Association of the Philippines (BAP) has given Go Teng Kok an additional assignment aside from being officially named project director in the country's bid to host the 2007 Asian Basketball Confederation (ABC) championship.

Go was also invited to be a special adviser to the BAP executive board to enhance the association's hopes of making a comeback in the international scene.

"We need somebody with the expertise, the clout and more importantly, the dedication to really serve RP sports. Mr. Go has these qualities so the BAP chose him as the project director of our ABC hosting bid and offered him to be the special adviser to the BAP executive board," said BAP secretary-general Graham Lim.

Lim is under fire lately for fielding the Philippine College of Criminology team as RP bet in the first Fiba-Asia Stankovic Cup in Taipei recently. The PCCr cagers were humbled no end and finished dead last in the tournament.

Go is currently president of the Philippine Amateur Track and Field Association (PATAFA) and the National Chess Federation of the Philippines (NCFP).

"We know he already has two major NSA's to lead, but everybody who knows GTK for a long time is aware the man best performs when under pressure. We believe he will deliver and he's more than welcome to lend us his wisdom and leadership," added Lim.

Go is no stranger to basketball, which he crashed through the family-owned Goyu and Sons' involvement in the Filipino-Chinese league before helping the country win the silver medal in the 1990 Beijing Asian Games as the team manager.

"I am deeply humbled by these offers, but I readily accept because I love challenges. Athletics, through the years, has infused itself into my blood. Chess has been one of my great loves in sports. And basketball has always been a favorite of mine."

Go is also seriously considering the revival of the once prestigious Filipino-Chinese basketball league that produced some of the finest players in the amateur league, the PBL and the PBA.

GO: Project head

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Boycott of races a step in the wrong direction

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

THE BOYCOTT of the races at the San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona, Cavite, will do more harm than good for the sport of horse racing in the country. In my opinion, the action taken by a disgruntled group of horse owners opposing the anti-EIA (Equine Infectious Anemia) campaign of the Philippine Racing Commission is a step in the wrong direction.

Even the *bayang karerista* did not support the boycott move. In fact, the boycott was hardly felt because the races were held as originally scheduled and off-track betting sales went on briskly, particularly on Tuesday and Wednesday. On the other hand, the Santa Ana Park, one of only two racing clubs in the country, even achieved a record gross sales of P185 million during last Sunday's 9th San Miguel Beer-Marho Breeders' Cup, enough proof that the boycott threat had little effect on the confidence of the racing public during the six-day races.

The boycott fell flat chiefly because it was not supported by all those directly concerned with the sport and the major players in the industry, including the country's leading racing organizations such as the Marho (Metropolitan Association of Race Horse Owners), Philtobo (Philippine Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Organization) and Klub Don Juan de Manila.

The boycott was staged by a group led by William Dagan, Tos Reyes and Narciso Morales, who opposed the anti-EIA testing campaign spearheaded by Philracom chair Jaime Dilag.

"We must address the EIA problem," said Mandaluyong Rep. Benhur Abalos, a noted horse owner who chairs the House committee on appropriations for the Philracom, Games and Amusements Board and the Philippine Sports Commission. "If we don't address the EIA problem, the local racing industry will suffer."

Another horse owner, Marho president and sports patron Aristeo "Putch" Puyat, said, "Philracom did the right thing in conducting EIA tests on our horses. EIA is very contagious and could wipe out the whole industry if not stopped immediately. It is deadly just like AIDS." Puyat added the Philracom did not order the EIA-infected horses destroyed but the ailing horses were banned from racing by the club owners themselves to prevent the virus from spreading.

Popular horse owner Hermie Esguerra is also behind the program. It was reported he had ordered four of his infected horses destroyed.

Several other lawmakers, who are also horse owners-breeders, are supporting the Philracom campaign, saying the anti-EIA testing is vital to the development of the local horse racing industry.

Rep. Luis "Baby" Asistio said, "The Philracom campaign against EIA is very timely. We must act now before it's too late."

Only a few years ago, Philippine horse racing was virtually wiped out by the Strangles epidemic. This infectious disease led to a temporary suspension of the races at both the Santa Ana and San Lazaro ovals, something which all well-meaning sports fans wouldn't want to ever happen again.

***

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT. Multi-titled national shooter Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla deserves a pat on the back for winning the center fire pistol event of the National Open Championship despite a long layoff.

"Tac is the most dedicated athlete I ever saw," said an avid supporter. "He is a perfectly balanced shooter, who is equipped with all the requisite gifts: God-given skills, a supportive family and unmatched passion for the sport. Tac spends his own money and holds regular practice round at the family-owned target range in Malabon to prepare for a tournament. No wonder he's phenomenal as a shooter."

The youthful general manager of Spring Cooking Oil and son of Olympian Tom Ong also topped two weeks ago the rapid fire event of the national shootfest, which is being held in preparation for the 2005 SEA Games. Besides Padilla, the other winners of the qualifying series were Carolino Gonzales, Susan Aguado, Army's Eric Guiniling and Joel Mariano.

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Spain opts for teen spirit, junks Ferrero for Nadal

FERRERO

SEVILLE, Spain— Spain opted for teen spirit on Thursday in plumping for 18-year-old Rafael Nadal in place of Juan Carlos Ferrero for Friday's opening singles in the Davis Cup final against the United States.

Former French Open champion Ferrero has been struggling with a series of injuries which had culminated in him missing the last six weeks of the season and he had said that he only felt around 85 percent fit in the days leading up to the final draw.

He added he would step aside if he did not feel he could give his best as Spain look to land only their second title.

Ironically, Ferrero himself came in for Alex Corretja four years ago and helped Spain break their Davis duck against Australia in an emotional final in Barcelona.

Carlos Moya, Spain's other former French Open title-winner, will open the encounter on Friday against US number two player Mardy Fish before Nadal gets to go toe to toe with US world number two Andy Roddick.

With the trophy match being held on slow Spanish clay and in front of a fanatical 26,000 crowd, the hosts start as favorites to land the cup and deny their visitors a 32nd 'salad bowl.'

US hopes of a first title since 1995 are pinned on the shoulders of Roddick, who has four singles titles this season but no Grand Slam.

The 22-year-old from Nebraska, 74-16 for the season coming here, bagged titles in Indianapolis, Queen's, Miami and San Jose, while he made the Wimbledon final and ended the season second in the rankings behind all-conquering Swiss Roger Federer.

But the 2003 US Open champion comes to southern Spain knowing that his 1,017 Tour aces may count for little on the clay where he rarely shines. *AP*

HINGIS: Back after two years of retirement.

Hingis returns in Volvo Open

BANGKOK— Former world tennis number one Martina Hingis, who was forced to quit the game at just 22 with a foot injury, will play her first tournament in more than two years next month in Thailand, organizers said Thursday.

Hingis was given a wildcard berth to the Volvo Women's Open, which starts in the coastal resort of Pattaya from January 29, and will be seeking her 77th WTA Tour title.

Organizers said her return was linked to a "charity initiative". "I hope to raise awareness of the support needed for those who are less fortunate and living in impoverished conditions in Thailand and around the world," Hingis was quoted as saying in a statement.

Hingis dominated the tour from 1997 to 2000, reaching third in the all-time career prize money list before bowing out of the game after surgery on both ankles.

She did not indicate if picking up the racquet in Pattaya was a one-off but has said previously it would require a "medical miracle" to make a comeback.

In June, the five-time Grand Slam winner said she would love to play Wimbledon again but admitted that the tough physical conditions of the game were making it harder for her to consider competing at the top level.

Hingis, who at 16 years and six months became the youngest-ever player to be crowned number one, has been developing a television commentary career. She last played a tournament in Germany in October 2002. *AFP*

SPORTSWATCH

Junior Doves soar to fifth straight win

ST. FRANCIS of Assisi College Systems-Bayanan continued its assault in the 5th Southern Luzon Colleges and Universities Athletic Association (SLCUAA) basketball tournament as its men's and boys' teams pulled off masterful wins at the Brent International School in Mamplasan, Laguna. The Junior Doves soared to their fifth straight win in as many outings with a 68-33 demolition of Brent, which suffered its third loss in a row. The St. Francis men's team routed Brent, 68-52, for their second straight in four games. The Colegio San Agustin belles, on the other hand, squeaked past Brent, 54-50, for their second straight victory in this 11-member league featuring the top schools of Southern Luzon. Brent's women's team shocked erstwhile-pacesetter La Salle-Health and Science Campus, 76-42, to score its third straight triumph.

Gov. Garcia Airsoft Open unfolds

ALL marksmen's roads lead to Dumanjug, Cebu, this Saturday when the Governor Gwen Garcia Cup Airsoft Open comes off the wraps. Event coordinator Paulo Garcia said the event will serve as the launching of the Governor's Cup, which is the first of five that is going to be held all over Cebu province. Cash prizes and trophies will be awarded to the top three winners of this event, which is supported by MLhuillier, GGC Services Inc., Smart Communications, Damcor, Philcopy, Isl and Stream. Teams slated to see action are ASG I, ASG2, Tri-J, Trident Knights, ASAP, NS Wings, YawCoy1, YawCoy2 and Team Rambo. *Salven Lagumbay, contributor*

Cavite 7-cock grand championship

THE GRAND championship of the Cavite 7-Cock International Derby, the 14th anniversary offering of Cavite Coliseum and Derby Center, unfolds today with more than 80 fights beginning at 5 p.m. A silver cup and a guaranteed prize of P2 million await the champion. After two days of intense battle, the entries of Jun Topacio of Cavite (JT Emerald) and Mayor Nene Aguilar (LCC) remained unbeaten with four wins each, and are the top favorites to win the title. Topacio will again field his prized lemon roundheads from Mindanao while Aguilar will rely on Lancey dela Torre's roundheads. Ready to challenge them are other frontrunning entries like SPC Jade Resort of Arman Santos, SRF4CD of Sen. Ramon Revilla, Siete Pares of Ronald Singson, NB Bubukal of Boyet Legazpi and Narding Balota, Samantha of Boy Royo and Pol Estrellado, Lexus of Romy Manalansan, Paniqui Dec. 19 of Bebot Roxas and King Edward of Edward de Luna. Meanwhile, coliseum manager Roger del Rosario advised paying patrons to keep their ticket stubs for the raffle draw. For inquiries, contact 0918-5674921, (046) 970-9971 and (046) 9704810 (look for Ferdie Bautista).

THRILLING FUN: Kart Trak, inside the Boom na Boom carnival complex at the corner of Roxas Boulevard and Gil Puyat Avenue, Pasay City, is the most preferred karting circuit in Metro Manila today for both amateur and professional karters.

Southwoods golfers virtual Fil Am titlists

BAGUIO CITY—Manila Southwoods, although submitting its first sub-100 performance in three days playing under typhoon signal No. 3, virtually won the Fil division crown of the inaugural seniors division of the 55th Fil-Am Golf Invitational tournament Thursday.

Southwoods scored 97 points after earlier aggregates of 108 and 109 and stormed beyond recall with a 37-point lead over National Bureau of Investigation and 39 over Orchard.

Florene de los Santos paced Southwoods 26 points, Jun Belicena contributed 25 and Ed Cataquis and Ben Borja added 23 each as the Carmona, Cavite-based squad totalled 314 after three rounds.

NBI scored 277 points while Orchard Seniors trailed with 275.

Camp Aguinaldo retained its lead over the surging Syndicate Seniors and Aloha Golf Club in the championship flight of the Am division.

Aguinaldo had 76 points in the third round for a total of 248. Syndicate was just 10 points behind at 238 after an 88 for the day day while Aloha held third at 237.

Anthony de Leon, Baguio Country Club general manager and tournament co-chair, said they would continue with the tournament despite the impending bad weather. This city and the rest of Northern Luzon had been placed under typhoon signal No. 3.

"It is still a green light. We have no strong winds and it is signal No. 3," said De Leon.

At the same time, he and co-chair Bong Vilches of Camp John Hay announced the organizing committee is initiating a modest "campaign to raise funds for the typhoon victims down south."

BCC and Camp John Hay host the tournament, the biggest of its kind in Asia with more than 1,000 participants.

Windy City Golf Club's Ed Henson also grabbed the spotlight by scoring a hole-in-one at BCC's 166-yard 18th hole in the company of Pat Roman of JJ Golf Club and Tags de Leon of Team Victory.

The Chicago-based architect scored the third ace in the tournament with a Callaway 8 iron and a Titleist 2 ball. The other acemakers were Larry Stover of Seoul Survivors at BCC's No. 1 and Ted Tanag of Jewel of the East at CJH's No. 6.

MARK Cardona (right) of ICTSI-La Salle drives against Ardy Larong of Granny Goose during their PBL game won by the Green Archers.

RUDY ESPERAS

Syndicate's Federico Eslao led the championship flight's individual scoring with 90 points but Baguio Councilor Federico Mandapat Jr. paced the overall scoring derby with 92 points.

Mandapat's Camp John Hay team in the Fil A division also had the title in the bag with the highest three-day total of 340 points.

Riviera Mizuno was a far second with 278 points, followed by Aguinaldo with 247.

In the Am Flight A, CJH also led with 274 points. Guam-based Chamorro Golf Club, which was feted Wednesday night by the city for being selected as the Lucky Foreign Visitors, only managed 65 points for a total of 227. Capitol Hill Seniors was third with 223 points, followed by Riviera Mizuno with 215. *Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Formula 1 racing comes to Shanghai

LONDON—Formula One, modern sport's most blatant example of conspicuous consumption and global capitalism, has come to Shanghai and the land of the push-bike.

So has the European PGA tour, belying its name by moving steadily east. Next year it will be the turn of tennis and the season-ending Masters Cup.

More bizarrely, the Shanghai International Sixes, an abbreviated form of cricket, has arrived in China's largest city. The latest edition featured former West Indies captain Viv Richards, one of Wisden Almanac's five cricketers of the 20th century. Seedy, glamorous, crowded and unashamedly wedded to trade and profit, Shanghai was imperial Britain's gateway to the east and centre of the opium trade.

Appropriately it was a Briton with the vision and audacity of his enterprising forebears, who travelled to all parts of the globe to make vast fortunes by sometimes dubious methods, who brought motor racing to China.

Bernie Ecclestone controls Formula One. For some time he has been looking to extend the parameters of the sports beyond its European base. Shanghai and Ecclestone were made for each other.

"There are 1.3 billion people in China and we currently have a television viewership in Shanghai and Beijing alone which exceeds the total viewership in the whole of Europe," Ecclestone told The Guardian newspaper.

Shanghai paid at least $325 million for the right to host the Grand Prix and constructed a futuristic circuit designed by German Hermann Tilke on a marsh 30 kms west of the city. The track, designed to represent the Chinese character "Shang", features two long straights and a series of loops and sharp curves and 200,000 spectators can be accommodated under a wing-shaped roof. *Reuters*

77 days

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

THE MOST famous Christmas tree in Baguio City is now alit. That is the one at the Baguio Country Club.

Measuring 60 feet from the ground up, its 2,360 wired lights and 200 yellow bulbs—each one as big as a Davao *pomelo*—sparkle nightly like huge, newly cut African diamonds.

Mounted at its usual home-the spot between the fairways of Nos. 1-10 and No. 18 of BCC-the Christmas tree's large, electric star atop it is so luminous its sheen can be seen from afar like Venus at dusk's last gasp.

"I welcome you all to our great city as we witness once more the historic lighting of Baguio Country Club's historic giant Christmas tree," said Peter Rey Bautista, the city vice mayor, in his speech during the well-attended occasion on Sunday at 30 minutes past six in the evening. "This occasion has now become a most awaited event every year. Our visitors, as well as our own folk, have come to cherish this time-honored tradition here at the Baguio Country Club and for which I congratulate the BCC leadership led by Attorney Rico Agcaoili."

I caught a glimpse of Anthony de Leon as Peter Rey was delivering his piece impromptu, and the chubby general manager of the Baguio Country Club nodded approvingly, smiling almost from ear to ear. Rico is in the United States but I'm sure Anthony was thrilled hearing the vice mayor pay homage to the president of the Baguio Country Club.

In Peter Rey—he is not even 30 I guess—I see a future father of this well-loved City of Pines.

Unknown to many, Peter Rey is the son of Rey, who is now president of the University of Baguio but who is known to Manila's sportswriters as the brother of Des, the jolly chess supporter and keen poker mate of Florencio Campomanes, Taby Tabaniag, Roger Flores, Jake Ayson and Art Padua of the famed Rose Bowl Restaurant in Baguio.

The lighting of the Christmas tree, Anthony de Leon's brainchild that began in 1993, came on the eve of the 55th Fil-Am Golf Invitational at the Baguio Country Club.

"This year, the occasion is connected to the centennial celebration next year of our club," said Anthony, who had to dispatch at least 30 people once more to erect the Christmas tree that took two weeks to build. "This idea was inspired by the giant Christmas tree that the Araneta Center would always put up in Cubao during the Christmas holidays."

It used to be that the BCC Choir, composed of BCC employees, did the singing of Christmas carols during the lighting of the BCC Christmas tree. But pressure of work eventually led to the disbandment of the choir.

This year, the University of Baguio Choir sang the carols while the St. Louis University Dance Troupe did the interpretative dances during the lighting of BCC's Christmas tree.

The centennial fever is such that this year, in the Fil-Am's 55th edition, golfers 55 and above had their inaugural tournament—with the champions to be crowned tonight. Already an established national event that, at one time, got entered into the Guinness Book of Records as the world's biggest golf championship in terms of attendance (almost 800 play regularly in the event), the Fil-Am has been extended to two weeks this year so the nation's senior golfers can have a tournament of their own.

On Tuesday, Dec. 7, the Men's Regular event of the Fil-Am will blast off at both Baguio Country Club and Camp John Hay, with Mizuno DHL defending the premiere Fil crown and Southwoods its Am title during the six-day tournament ending Dec. 12. Like Anthony at BCC, Bong Vilches, the Camp John Hay general manager, has prepared CJH to tip-top shape.

Meanwhile, today is 77 days to the day the BCC is to celebrate its 100th anniversary on Feb. 18, 2005. The event, Anthony de Leon said, would have GMA as guest of honor. At 9 p.m. that day, the nation's top crooner, Martin Nievera, will perform on a makeshift stage to be mounted in front of the common greens of No. 1 and No. 10. The show—get this—is for free.

"Our humble way of showing our gratitude to the members, friends and supporters of the Baguio Country Club," said Anthony.

If that's not a class act, what is?

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

SPORTS

2005 Asian Tour includes Brunei, but skips Philippines

HONG KONG—The first half of the 2005 Asian Tour Schedule will include groundbreaking stops in Brunei and Qatar plus a new $1.25-million event in China, its chief executive Louis Martin said Thursday.

He announced a 14-event schedule for the first six months of 2005 with total prize money of $11.5 million.

The rapid development of golf in China is underlined with the establishment of the inaugural CGA Championship from June 2 to 5 in Beijing.

Brunei's first national Open will be staged in Bandar Seri Begawan from June 30 to July 3. The Okinawa Open, jointly sanctioned with the Japan Golf Tour Organization, will tee off the new season at Naha later in December.

The Qatar Masters will also join the Asian Tour Schedule for the first time next March. Established in 1998 as a European Tour event, the organizers have invited the Asian Tour to co-sanction the tournament in view of the upcoming Asian Games which Doha will host in 2006. *AFP*

Bacolod prepares musical SEAG rite

By Marc Anthony Reyes

A "VERY show biz" opening ceremony is being planned by Bacolod City, which will stage five regular events of the 2005 Southeast Asian Games.

"It is going to be a musical opening ceremony," according to Rep. Monico Puentevella of the rites that will be held at the Panaad Sports Stadium where stars of the entertainment world will be invited to perform.

"I'm sure our *artistas* will be willing to render their services for the country."

Puentevella, the weightlifting head and incoming Philippine Olympic Committee first vice president, is spearheading the preparation by local organizers to host men's football, beach volleyball, volleyball, boxing and weightlifting.

A former Tawag ng Tanghalan national champion, Puentevella said Bacolod will use the musical theme in contrast with the fiesta and cultural opening shows planned by other sites like Cebu City and Metro Manila.

Cebu City will kick off its preparation in February with the Sinulog Festival, while Metro Manila plans to stage the opening ceremony at the Rizal Park with a cultural presentation.

"Music will be our theme," Puentevella said, adding that they would showcase the Filipinos' world-class musical talent by following the example of the Barcelona Olympics in 1992.

Puentevella, who is also a member of the Philippine SEAG Organizing Committee, likewise defended Bacolod's proposed P50 million budget.

He said men's football—the most popular sport among the SEA countries—deserves to have a scoreboard and lighting system, which Panaad currently does not have.

"We will not spend unnecessarily," said Puentevella. "But we will need to renovate the stadium to accommodate the big crowd for men's football, which is the most popular event in the province and in Southeast Asia."

He added that the projected tourism income for Bacolod and Cebu City more than justifies their budgets because fans from Visayas and Mindanao won't go to Manila anymore to witness the Nov. 27-Dec. 5 Games.

RACING TIPS

AT SLLP BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Feng Shui 2. Nagmamahal 3. Apache Warrior 4. Playing Cool

Race 2—1. Gonfalon Story 2. Caden Dance 3. Madel Line 4. Shifty

Race 3—1. Sovereign Queen 2. Front Page 3. Mighty Dragon

Race 4—1. Hazit Coming/The Magician 2. Valiant Queen 3. Legally Blonde 4. Risk Taker 5. Namaste

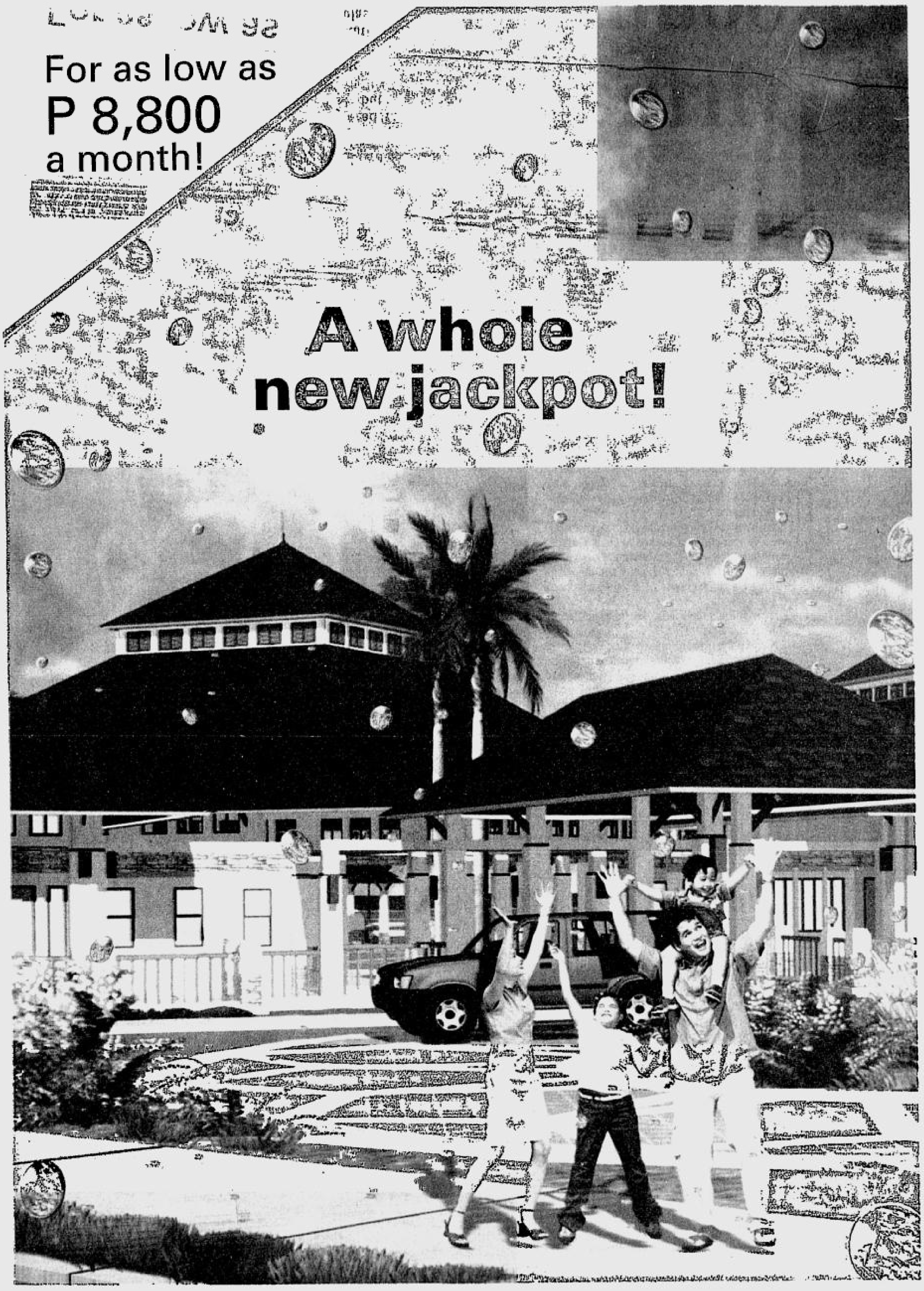
Race 5—1. Eye Candy 2. Bunker Buster 3. Montezuma 4. Inner Wheeler 5. Go Ichi 6. Golden Touch

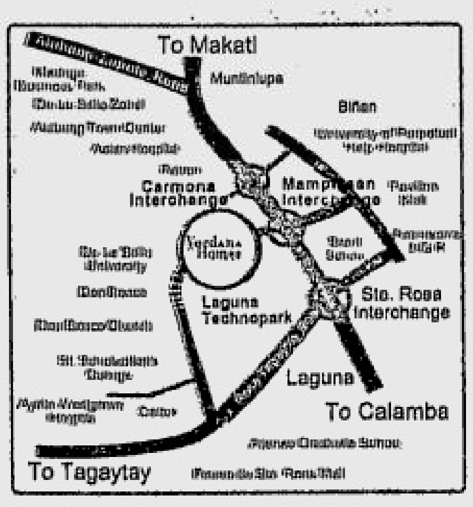
Race 6—1. Golden Cat 2. Easy Rider 3. Five O'Clock 4. Millennium Man 5. Green Buck

Race 7—1. Race for Gold 2. La Española 3. Hong Kong Girl 4. Noble Red

Race 8—1. Hellfire 2. Scrap of Gold 3. War Hero/Shower of Stars 4. Albatross 5. Divne Diva/Dato's Pride

Race 9—1. Casanova 2. Transparent 3. Malone 4. Mountain Eagle 5. Princess Inn 6. Showtime Lady





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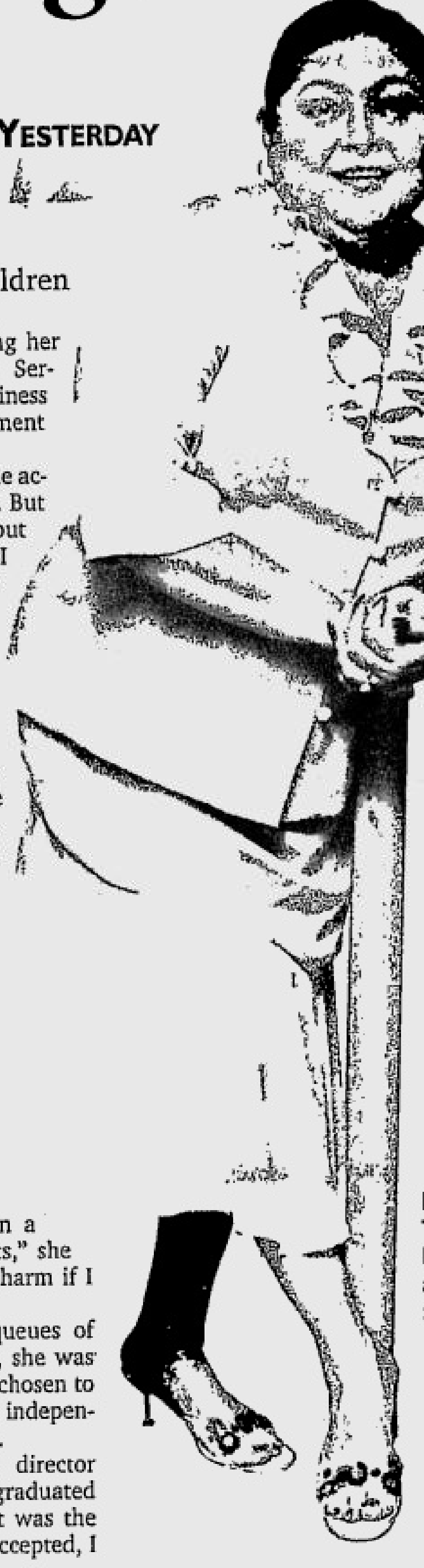
Marissa Delgado, ex-Playboy model, thriving businesswoman

By Nini Valera



YESTERDAY

BIGGER THAN life, Delgado admits running her business "took a lot of hard work. But nothing comes easy. I wanted it, so I shouldn't complain." RYAN LIM

THE SEXY actress who once posed naked for Playboy Magazine is now a heavyweight businesswoman and grandmother to two children aged 12 and 6.

Marissa Delgado has been running her MarDel International Management Services for 19 years, keeping the business one of the most reputable recruitment agencies in the country today.

"It took a lot of hard work," said the actress in Filipino. "It's still hard work. But nothing comes easy. You have to put your best into it. I wanted it, so I shouldn't complain. I find fulfillment in fulfilling other people's dreams."

Like the talents she sends abroad, Delgado once had her dreams.

"I was a little girl when I first dreamed of becoming an actress," Delgado recalled. "I was 11 when my grandmother who had raised me asked (the late great designer) Ramon Valera to put me in the movies through his connections with the film studios. He and my grandmother played mahjong often. But they both decided I was still too young then. They told me to wait until I turned 15."

A break in movies

Two years after she turned 15 and a year after she finished high school at the University of the East, Delgado auditioned for a movie role.

"My grandfather read this ad in a newspaper looking for fresh talents," she narrated. "I thought there was no harm if I tried. So I showed up to audition."

Delgado remembers the long queues of hopeful wannabes. But in the end, she was one of three girls who were finally chosen to be given a break in the movies by an independent film producer, GM Productions.

"I auditioned before (the late) director Artemio Marquez the day after I graduated from high school," she said. "That was the start. Among the three who were accepted, I was the only one who stayed on."

Her first movie, "Dalawang Kumander sa WAC," starred Dolphy and Chiquito. She played a member of the women's auxiliary corps. She remembers receiving about P3,000 for her role, which she shot for several weeks.

"It took so long to shoot because we had so many locations," she said, "It was supposed to be a war movie. But it didn't matter to me how much I was paid. I just wanted to be in the movies, and I was finally acting."

Kissing and bikinis

A string of supporting roles followed, with other stars like Lucita Soriano—who was then a top-biller—recommending the young Delgado to other movie producers. A freelance actress, Delgado did not have any build-up contract with any major movie outfit. She also did not have a manager to guide her career and direct her show biz path. She relied mostly on word-of-mouth recommendations by the actors and actresses she worked with.

"I played mostly supporting roles," she said. "Or I was the *contravida*. When James Bond movies like those made by Tony Ferrer became the fad, I would play one of the leading ladies."

Known for sexy roles that required her to kiss her partners and wear a modest bikini, Delgado became a reluctant screen vamp.

"In those days, just showing your navel would get you excommunicated," she said. "But I still wore bikinis even if it took me a long time to begin wearing them. I kept on thinking about how my grandmother would think if she saw me, how my aunt would feel about my wearing them.

"But I'm an actress, and my roles called for wearing them. So I went sexy and I have no regrets about it."

In 1968, a team from Playboy asked Delgado to pose naked for the American magazine.

"I agreed to pose for them, but not naked," she said. "They paid me in dollars. I still have the issue of that magazine with my picture in it. It showed me naked only from the back and just my back. I keep that magazine in my vault now. I am not yet ready to show it to my grandchildren."

BODY BEAUTIFUL in the '60s. "I dreamed of becoming an actress."

> 'I keep that (Playboy) magazine in my vault now. I am not yet ready to show it to my grandkids'

No Virgin Mary

Delgado also had her share of leading lady roles. These were for movies which starred Ramon Revilla Sr., like "Vergado" and "Pepeng Koryente." She was also leading lady to Joseph Estrada in the movie "Agila at Araw."

"I was not really leading lady material," she laughed.

Even in the *cenaculo* staged at the Opera House and Clover Theater, where movie stars like Delgado performed in the '60s, the actress played the part of Mary Magdalene and never the Virgin Mary.

"I don't think I look like a Virgin Mary," she said.

But it was an honorable profession which helped Delgado support her grandfather, sin-

MARISSA/ A2-2

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December 12
The Embassy of Sweden presents
3:00 PM Lucia Choir
4:00 PM Swedish Christmas Stories for children with storyteller Linda Skogsberg

December 14
The British Embassy and The British Council present
4:00 PM Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* with storyteller Melody Remorca
6:00 PM Coro Angelitos

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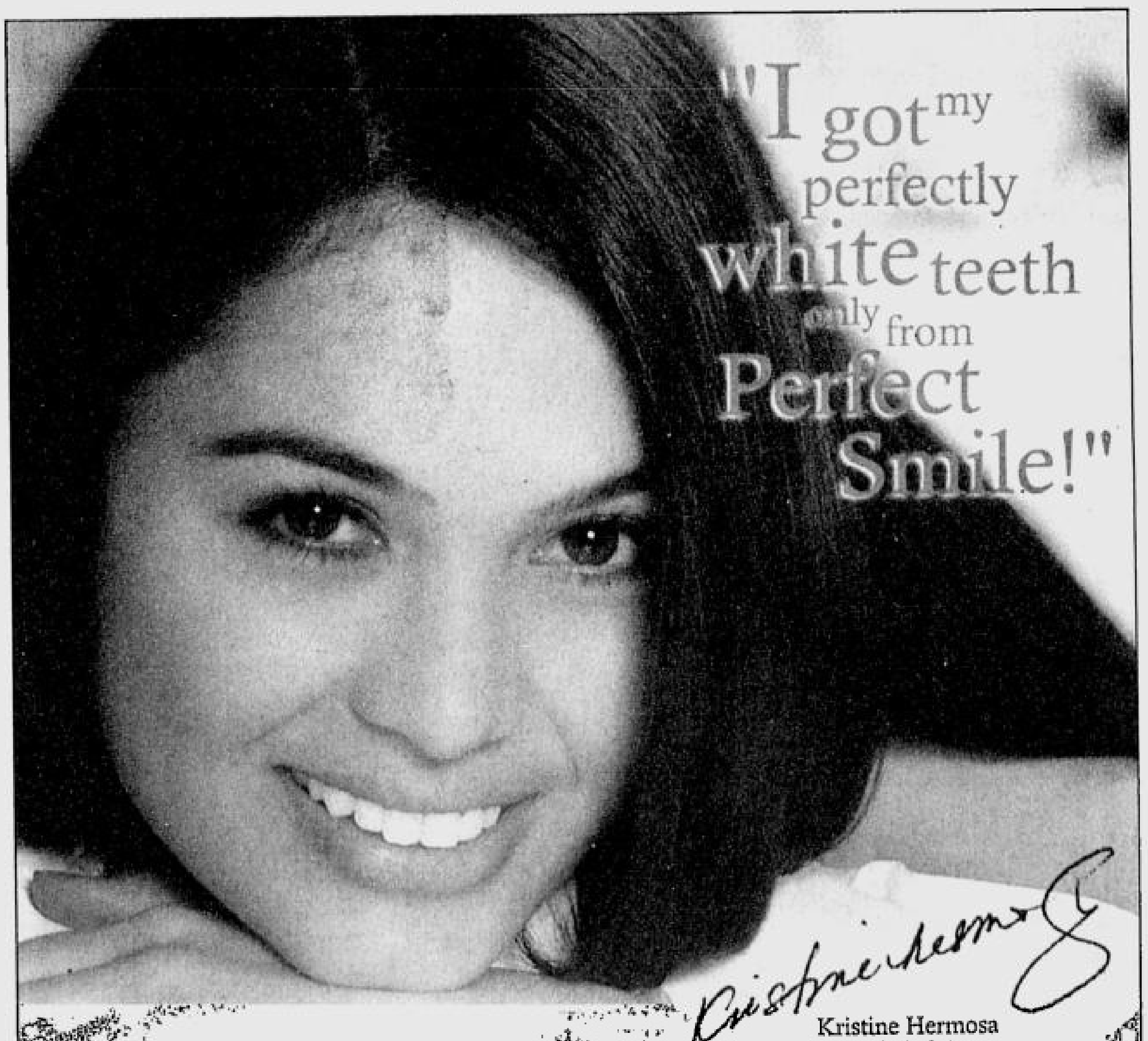

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PLAYING the wife of closet queen Eddie Garcia in Brocka's "Tubog sa Ginto," which she considers one of her best roles

WITH Ricky Belmonte and Nida Blanca, who are both gone now

LEADING LADY to "Da King" Fernando Poe Jr.

Marissa Delgado, ex-Playboy…

From page A2-1

gle mother, and eventually her two children after she and her husband separated after 11 years and 9 months. It even won her a Famas award for her performance in "Umiyak Pati Langit," which starred Helen Gamboa in 1969.

"I never chose the roles I played," she admitted. "If a role were offered to me, I would grab it immediately. I was the family's breadwinner. When my *lola* died after a lingering illness, we were broke. I had to work hard. Even if I wanted to go to college, I couldn't go back to school. My mother could not support her children. She was a single mom. She now lives in the US."

Delgado's father was an American who was in the Navy. She met him for the first time when she was already 23. But Delgado was with him when he died in his home in Los Angeles, California at the age of 91.

"I got from my father my mestiza looks," she said. "But I inherited from my mom my high cheekbones."

Her parents eventually separated, with her father returning to the US, and her mother teaming up with another man with whom she had four more children. Delgado refused to reveal her parents' names, saying she had never gone public with her private life.

MOTHER AND DAUGHTER Avon, who became a beauty queen

Contentment in hard work

Of her first partner, the father of her son Kevin, a former actor, and daughter Avon, a former Bb. Pilipinas beauty queen, Delgado spoke vaguely, without revealing the man's identity and details of what had gone wrong in their union.

"He is a businessman and we're still friends," she said. "After we separated, I had to work harder. We split because I couldn't understand his lifestyle. I guess I was then too young to understand it. But now that I'm older, I could have acted differently.

"I am a forgiving person, but it's over be-

MARISSA/ A2-3

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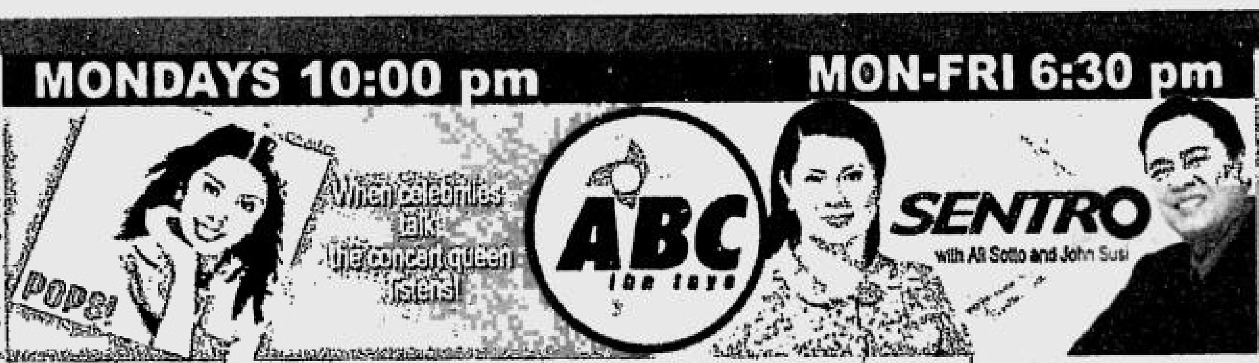
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ABS-CBN 2				Showbiz No. 1	Sandara's Romance	Get Backers	Ragnarok	Masked Rider Ryuki	TV Patrol	Star Circle National Teen Quest	Krystala	Hiram	It Might Be You	Lovers In Paris	Star Circle Nat'l Teen Quest Elimin Special			Insider	Private I
NBN	Value Vision	Value Vision		Value Vision	Teledyaryo	Value Vision		Gold & Glory In Greece	The Working President	Network Forum		Teledyaryo		Mosconi Cup 2003				Ugnayang Pambansa	
ABC 5	Problema Nyo, Sagot Ko	PBA Game-Bol	PBA				Sentro	PBA					Big News	Secrets	TNA Impact		Billboard On-Air		
GMA 7	Leya (2:45 PM)	Joyride (3:15 PM)	Snow Angel (3:45 PM)		One Piece	Rune Soldier	Slam Dunk	24 Oras		Extra Challenge		Mulawin (7:50 PM)		Starstruck (8:50 PM)	Forever In My Heart (9:20 PM)	Bubble Gang			Saksi
RPN 9	Metro TV Shopping			Ratsada Balita		Wild Thornberries	Sponge Bob	Invader Zim	Entertainment Tonight	Just For Laughs	Dharma & Greg	Enterprise		Dead Zone		Newswatch Now	TV Greats On Friday		
IBC 13		V League				IBC Express Balita		Home Shopping Network		Celebrity Dot Com		Global Family Series		Legacy Of Hero		Pulis Na Palaban	IBC News Tonite	GMA The Working President	
Solar		WWE Velocity		WWE Experience		Rastol	Thunder Sub	Ozzy & Drix	Heavy Gear	Deep Space Nine		WWE Smackdown				WWE Velocity		Wow	
Nickelodeon	Dora, The Explorer	Little Bear	Blues Clues	SpongeBob SquarePants	All That	Are You Afraid of the Dark?	100 Deeds of Eddie McDowd	The Amanda Show	The Brother's Garcia	Wracked! Sabrina The Teenage Witch/ Pelswick/My Dad The RockStar/ Drake & Josh					100 Deeds of Eddie McDowd	The Amanda Show	Rocket Power	The Wild Thornberrys	The Brother's Garcia
MYX		Urban MYX	Rock MYX	Pop MYX	OPM MYX	Take 5	My MYX	MYX Daily Top Ten		Mellow MYX	Rock MYX	Pop MYX	Urban MYX	Star MYX	Club MYX	My MYX	MYX Backtrax	OPM MYX	Mellow MYX
ETC		What I Like About You	JKX	The Today Show		Starting Over		NBC Nightly News	Entertainment Tonight	Will & Grace	What I Like About You	Iron Chef		Star Search		Tonight Show With Jay Leno		Blind Date	Fifth Wheel
Studio 23								Teen Titans	Justice League	Wazzup Wazzup	Spider-Man: The Animated Series	The Swan		Playing It Straight		News Central	The Oprah Winfrey Show		Spin City
AXN		Big Shot's Funeral				30 Seconds To Fame	30 Seconds To Fame	Rave	Rave	Boomtown		The Right Stuff II	Rated X	Cold Squad		Double Vision			
Star World		The Bold & The Beautiful		Hollywood Squares	Home Improvement	Baywatch		The Simpsons	The Drew Carey Show	Star News Asia	Just Shoot Me	TNA Wrestling/ Miss World '04: You Decide		Stupid Behavior Caught On Tape	When Hidden Cameras Attack	Nash Bridges/ Ultimate Force		Just Shoot Me	Stupid Behavior Caught On Tape
CNN				Business International		Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	Business International		World News Asia		World News	World Sport	World News Asia		World News	World Sport
National Geographic	On Assignment	NG Sea						The Snake Wranglers	Croc Chronicles Dr. Brady Barr	Wild		About Asia		Nat'l Geographic Specials		NG Sea/ Seconds From Disaster			
Solar Sports					Sounds of the Finals														
Lifestyle Network	Country Style	Interiors By Design	Decorating With Style	Decorating Cents	Molto Mario	Sweet Dreams	30 Minute Meals	Bill Boggs Corner	Unwrapped	Ming's Quest	Revealed With Jules Asner		Behind The Velvet Ropes	Area					Wolfgang Puck's
HBO	Black Cadillac (2:35 PM)			Streets Of Fire (4:05 PM)			Into the Night (5:35 PM)				Pavement			Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle			Red Dragon (10:45PM)		
Star Movies		Year Of The Gun (3:15 PM)				Going All The Way (5:10 PM)			X2: X-Men United (6:45 PM)					The Chamber				8MM (10:50PM)	
Cartoon Network	Scooby-Doo Show	The All New Popeye Show		Richie Rich	Baby Looney Tunes	Sylvester & Tweety Mysteries	Police Academy	The Powerpuff Girls	Toon Pick	Yu-Gi-Oh!	Zoids: Fuzors	The Looney Tunes Show		Mucha Lucha!	Codename: Kids Next Door	Justice League		Aqua Teen (11:15PM)	Yu-Gi-Oh!
ESPN				Acc/Big Ten Challenge '04 USA				Acc/Big Ten Challenge '04 USA				Sportscenter Taiwan	Eng. Premier League Preview	Sportscenter Taiwan	Pro Billiards '04 Trick Shot Magic NY, USA		Pro Billiards '04 Int'l Challenge of Champs USA		Sportscenter Taiwan
Disney Channel	Kim Possible	Totally Spies	Lizzie Mcguire	Even Stevens	That's So Raven	Martin Mystery	Totally Spies	The Legend Of Tarzan	Lilo & Stitch/Un-talkative Bunny	America's Funniest Home Video	Wonderful World Of Disney			My Wife And Kids	That's So Raven	According To Jim	America's Funniest Home Video	Wonderful World Of Disney	
Cinemax	Adrenaline			Too Legit: The MC Hammer Story (4:15 PM)			Try To Remember (5:45 PM)				The Naked Gun 21/2: The Smell Of Fear			The Sum Of All Fears				The Assignment	
Hallmark Channel	Mad About You	Word Of Honor				Play With Me Sesame	Sesame Street		Bewitched	Mysterious Ways		Sue Thomas: F.B.Eye		Run For The Dream: The Gail Devers Story			The District (10:35PM)		Mysterious Ways (11:25PM)
Discovery Channel		Power Zone				Wild Discovery		Ultimate Discovery		Full Metal Challenge		Mythbusters		Wild Discovery		Ultimate Discovery		Crime Night	
MTV Philippines				Non-Stop Hits		Non-Stop Hits		MTV Get Spotted	MTV Loveline	MTV Harana		MTV Brand New	Be Seen @ MTV	MTV Asia Hitlist		Newlyweds	The Assistant	VH1 Hits/ Video Collection	
Sports Plus					Preakness				Pac 10 College Stanford vs UCLA					Inside the PGA	NFL Gameday	WTA Finals Linz			
EWTN	Does The Church Still Teach That	Angelus (3:15PM)	Stations Of The Cross	Image Of God	Faith Factory	The Holy Rosary With Mother Angelica and the Nuns Of Our Lady Of Angels Monastery	Search And Rescue	Your Call	EWTN Gallery	Life on The Rock Encore		Gospel Of Life In Health Care	Defending Life	Daily Mass		Angelus (10:15PM)	Backstage	Father Corapi And The Catechism Of The Catholic Church	

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Marissa Delgado, ex-Playboy…

MOTHER, GRANDMOTHER roles. “It doesn't matter. That's still acting.”

WITH the late Nida Blanca

FROM HONORABLE profession to reputable business, Delgado says, “I still have dreams.”
RYAN LIM

From page A2-2

tween us. I had a lot of fears then. But both my children understand my life."

She found contentment in hard work after the death of her grandmother, whom she said had given her a good life.

"I had to work hard then to support my family and my extended family," Delgado said. "Okay *lang*. I love them and I didn't mind. I did not want to be idle. I even had a small business on the side while doing movies."

She sold whatever clothes and fashion accessories were in vogue to her fellow movie stars, like Faded Glory jeans.

"I sold perfumes, all kinds of goods," she said. "My colleagues joked about my car being a rolling store. "It was a good sideline. The stars always bought in bulk."

She said she even sold Loyola Memorial life plans at the time the product was still being introduced and no one had a concept of what it was.

"I was probably one of the first people who sold life plans," she said. "It was hard selling life plans then, but I was still able to sell a few."

A house in Alabang

At the peak of her movie career, Delgado made 15 movies a year. She considers her role in the late director Lino Brocka's landmark film about homosexuality, "Tubog sa Ginto," one of her greatest parts.

"I was proud to be in the film," she said. "I played Eddie Garcia's supposed girlfriend to hide his true personality of a closet queen."

When movie offers, including villain roles dwindled, Delgado turned to television. She was a mainstay on the '80s soap "Anna Lisa" and the sitcom "Duplex," both on Channel 7.

"I was able to build my house in Ayala Alabang because of these shows," Delgado revealed. "But it's not a mansion, *ha*. I never cling to something I cannot afford. I always start small."

It was also at about this time when Delgado put up her talent agency.

"I knew I was going to need it when I no longer had movie assignments," Delgado admitted. "I want to have a secure old age. Also, I have, I think, been blessed with good business acumen.

"I thrive on business. I thought of this business of recruiting talents for overseas postings because I am part of the performing arts. Fate brought me here, I'm sure. I know what it's like to be a performer so I don't have to depend on other people to manage the business. I know its heart and soul."

Delgado's company has its own training centers for performing artists. Recently, she added a training module for caregivers and nurses whom she also deploys overseas.

"This way, I can help the country in providing jobs," she said. "Our training is rigid, and we have professional trainers."

A wiser actress

Her company is an ISO-certified company, including its training centers, according to Delgado. An ISO certification guarantees that a company is aligned with global standards.

To keep herself abreast with business trends, Delgado has not stopped attending workshops and seminars, including a course in managing for the arts at the Asian Institute of Management.

If she had her way, Delgado would like to relive her life as an actress, but wiser than she had been in the '60s. She claims there were no bad experiences she wants to undo, but there had been disappointments and minor frustrations she would have wanted to resolve. Like when she did not accept a role in Peque Gallaga's first film, "Oro, Plata, Mata."

"The role played by Mitch Valdez in the movie was offered to me," Delgado revealed. "I did not accept it because it had a nude scene. Although they promised me that it would be shot from the back, I still felt squeamish about going naked. I know now that I should have accepted the role. I should have trusted Peque more. But that time, I did not know him."

Once in a while, Delgado would still get movie offers to play grandmother roles. She also gets assignments on TV soaps. "But it doesn't matter," she said. "That's still acting."

She claims she has forgotten her last big movie role.

"The truth is time has already passed me by," Delgado said.

But she still has dreams.

"Like I want to have my own TV show," she confided. "I still have more dreams. I don't lose hope easily. I can't be hopeless. There would always be hope for me because I always have faith."

'60 STAR. She joined the movies a year after finishing high school.

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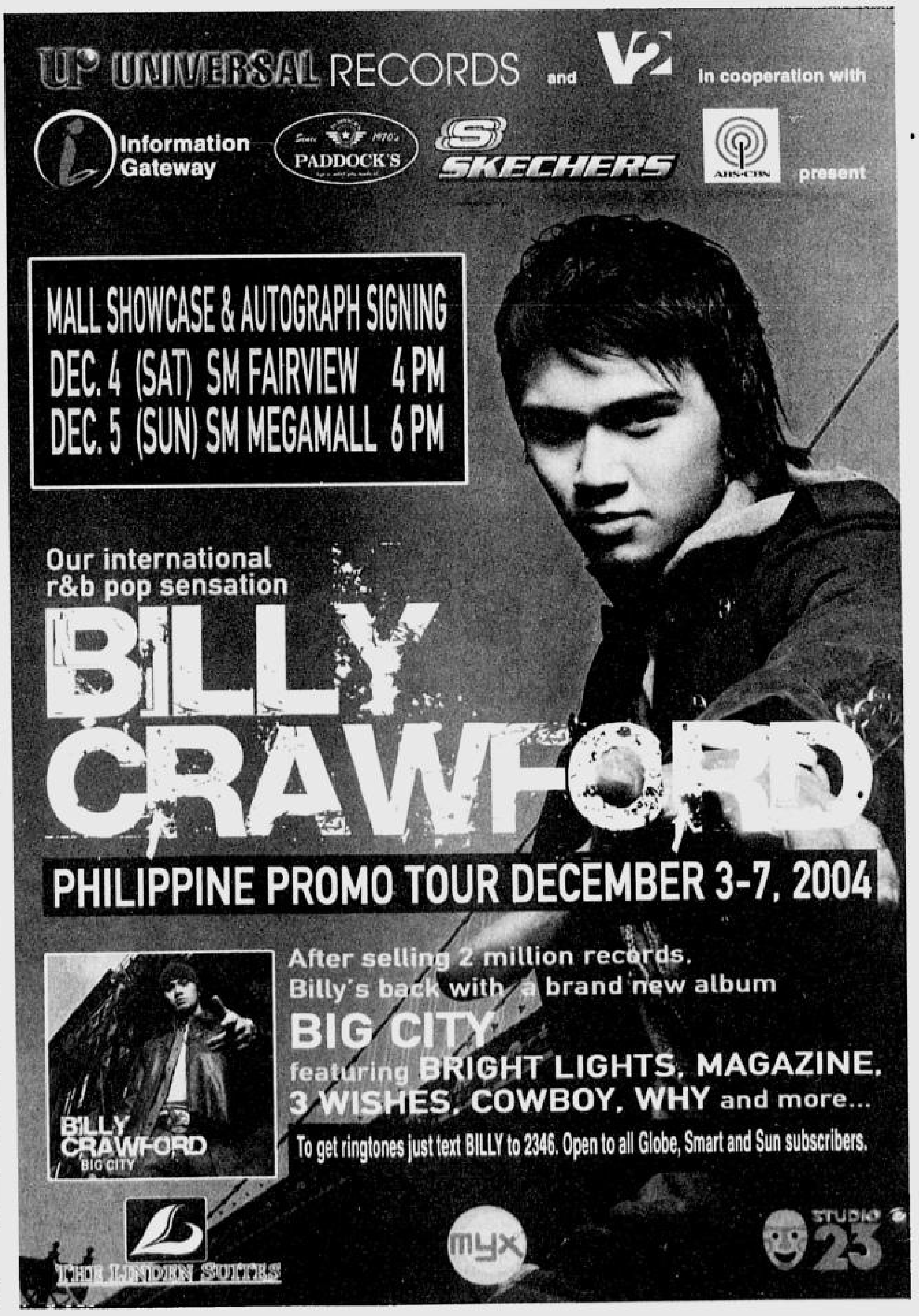

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The country's largest indoor Christmas tree at Waterfront Cebu City

Majestic and exalting with a 'Crown Jewels' theme, the hotel's Christmas tree is the largest indoor Christmas tree in the Philippines

REMEMBER how it used to feel being young and new to the world, and just getting caught up in the loving warmth, pure happiness and excitement of Christmas? Do we still have even a glimpse or a glimmer of it within ourselves? Not knowing what presents we're getting and hoping against hope we catch our favorite jolly old man in red.

To start off the season, Waterfront Cebu City Hotel and Casino opens its Bibingka and Puto Bumbong Corner for the whole month of December from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. What better way to enjoy our Filipino tradition of a long Christmas Season than to gather friends and family for a merienda sienna filled with lip-smacking Filipino delicacies with hot chocolate or Salabat amidst a perfect Christmas setting with a perfectly colossal Christmas Tree.

Quite a sight to behold, Waterfront Cebu City Hotel and Casino's Christmas Tree stands 30 feet tall. Majestic and exalting with a "Crown Jewels" theme, the hotel's Christmas tree, the largest indoor Christmas tree in the Philippines, brings sparkle and a little extra twinkle to this year's Christmas season. As you come in to the hotel's newly renovated lobby, one can't help but look in awe and wonder at the gigantic symbol of Christmas resurrected right in the middle of all the hustle and bustle of hospitality traffic. Children gather around and stare at what must seem a truly astounding spectacle for their clear and innocent little eyes to perceive while more mature guests, both local and foreign, pick the right spot for that perfect shot. Cameras flash, warmth fills everyone's souls, our spirits are lifted and laughter resounds throughout the air, it seems Christmas is finally here - at Waterfront Cebu City Hotel and Casino.

For inquiries or reservations, call the Waterfront Cebu City Hotel at tel. no. 232-6888 (local 8600) or Manila Sales and Reservations Office at (02) 687-0888.

A grand time at the greens

MORE than 50 golfers from southern Metro Manila's business sector converged for a day of fun and friendship at Alabang Country Club for The Bellevue Manila-Smart Infinity Golf Fellowship. Alabang's movers and shakers, expatriates and top executives who remain loyal to The Bellevue Hotel were treated to a day of exciting golfing action, as well as premium giveaways and raffle prizes. The event also heralds the imminent opening of The Bellevue Grand Ballroom in December, the biggest and grandest convention facility to rise in the area.

In the awarding ceremonies held at the hotel's 20/20 entertainment center, golfers refreshed themselves with choice canapés and superb spirits from Future Trade Wines. The Bellevue Manila-Smart Infinity Golf Fellowship winners, who were given special prizes and trophies by The Bellevue executive assistant manager Patrick Chan and communications manager Ryan Chan, include Low Net Champion Danny Yu, Low Gross Champion Jojo Guingona, Class A Champion Rey Capinianes, Class B Champion Jun Valerio, Class A 1st Runner Up Art Zuluaga, Class B 1st Runner Up Bonifacio Domingo, Class A 2nd Runner Up Peter Ong and Class B 2nd Runner Up Rolando Enriquez. Bellevue executives also gave away gift certificates in the raffle, as well as DVD players, home theater systems, flat TVs, a set of Goodyear tires of any choice and a golfing holiday at Sutera Resort in Kota Kinabalu. Call The Bellevue at 771-8181 for inquiries.

Dusit Hotel Nikko's Christmas room package

CHRISTMAS is indeed just around the corner and everyone is busy doing their Christmas shopping. Would it be nice to shop where everything is accessible - the shopping area and the place where you can rest and at the same time receive perks you just can't resist?

From Dec. 1, to Jan. 15, 2005, Dusit Hotel Nikko offers the "Shop 'till You Drop Holiday Room Package". Stay either in a deluxe room pegged at P4,500 nett per room per night or in a corner deluxe room priced at P5,500 nett per room per night and enjoy these privileges: buffet breakfast for two at the Café, receive a Discount Card at the Ayala Commercial Center, a dining gift certificate worth P500 or P1,000, enjoy drop-off or pick-up transfers to or from Greenbelt Mall and Rockwell Power Plant Mall and use of the sauna and gym at Clark Hatch Fitness Centre.

Extra person charge is P1,975 nett per person per night. The Shop 'til You Drop Holiday Room Package is applicable to local residents and expatriates with ACR.

For queries and reservations, please call the sales office at 819-2559 or the reservations at 867-3333 local 3131-3134.

Christmas at City Garden Hotel Makati

CITY GARDEN Hotel Makati, the "All Occasion, Location" when it comes to your party needs, recently launched its Christmas Party Packages that provide hassle-free arrangements sure to make your event a success.

For as low as P35,000+, the package is inclusive of a buffet menu, Christmas décor and sound system. Menus include Fiesta Filipino, Western, Fisherman's Fare or City Garden Menus. Reception venues may be held at its cozy, fully -equipped function rooms or at the al fresco Roofdeck Bar & Grill and swimming pool that gives a spectacular view of the metropolis.

For those special Christmas family get-togethers, City Garden Hotel Makati's Party Package comes for as low as P24,750+ inclusive of buffet menu or barbecue grill for 35 persons, use of the function room, free complimentary dish, and discounts on drinks.

For those needing hotel accommodation, for as low as P1,350 per person on a twin-sharing basis, one can enjoy the hotel's tastefully elegant guest rooms, inclusive of a choice of free sumptuous buffet breakfast for two or a Spa service at the hotel's Body & Face by Mendez, free use of its open-air swimming pool at the Roofdeck and fully equipped Gym.

The fully-equipped Gym, set at the hotel's upper penthouse on the 23rd floor, offers guests a healthy alternative to enjoy each other's company. This glass-walled gym provides guests a magnificent view of the metropolis while working out.

For those needing extra pampering, the Body & Face by Mendez recently opened at the hotel's penthouse level. This spa has US-sourced products and well-trained therapists and doctors who administer an array of refreshing and rejuvenating facial and body treatments, body massage, weight loss program, Botox, and other anti-ageing and health care services at very affordable prices. For just a few extra pesos, guests can stay in one of the Asian-inspired Spa rooms inclusive of a Spa service, free use of the swimming pool and gym.

For reservations or inquires, call 899-1111.

National fetish for gossip

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

WE WERE finally able to watch **Jessica Soho**'s new GMA 7 show, "Kapuso Mo," last Sunday. We were glad that the episode opted to focus on the topic of gossip, since we feel that Filipinos' obsession with poking our noses into other people's business is one reason why we're in such a mess.

This is because, when we bitchily concern ourselves with other folks' private lives, especially with their seamier and smellier aspects, we dissipate our energies and don't focus on what *we* can do about our own problems.

Also, we assume a holier-than-thou attitude that is actually a cover-up for our own misery loving other miserable people's company!

So, it's healthy for a TV show to explore the various factors and issues related to gossip, especially in the Philippines, where *chismis* has become a major draw on TV.

The situation is exacerbated by the fact that local gossip has expanded from its original base in show business, to now include *chismis* about other aspects of society, like politics and Manila's 400.

In fact, TV's fascination with gossip now includes even the sordid lives of non-celebrities, all the way down to the barangay or neighborhood level, as long as their sins and excesses are vile enough to both shock and titillate the TV audience.

In the light of these developments, Jessica Soho's show did viewers a distinct service by throwing its spotlight on our national fetish for gossip.

However, after a while, the show frittered away its initial advantage by tackling too many subtopics, and consequently not devoting enough time to any of them for them to be worth our while.

Among other sallies, the episode debunked the hoary rumor about Rizal being Hitler's *tatay*, the presence of a woman-eating snake in the ladies' room of a big department store, and a town in the south notorious for its resident *aswangs*.

The show conducted an "experiment" that consisted of a fake scandal staged in an FX taxi, after which the other passengers were encouraged to gossip about what they had just witnessed.

What were the "experiment's" findings? That the gossip about the scandal was predictably know-it-all, misinformed, speculative and bitchy. And that, contrary to general belief, men could be as bitchy as women!

Fine, but these were rather slim pickings for a 30-minute show. In future, we hope that the program opts to focus on fewer subtopics, so that it can really do justice to them.

We would also like to see the show go deeper into topic up for discussion, so that more solid and enlightening insights can be arrived at.

With Jessica at the helm, the refocusing stands a good chance of succeeding.

'Laro'

STARTING Dec. 3, Theater Now, the laboratory arm of Gantimpala Theater Foundation, will stage "Laro" at Studio 2 at the Concert at the Park auditorium, Rizal Park.

"Laro" is the adaptation of **Arthur Schnitzler**'s play for 10 male actors, led by **Julien Mendoza**,

NATIONAL/ A2-6

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3 (DOLBY) SURVIVING CHRISTMAS

Lianas MovieCity
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1 (DOLBY) AFTER THE SUNSET
2 NAKAW NA SANDALI
3 (DTS) ALEXANDER
4 TAXI
5 PASIYAM

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283
1 BCUZ OF U
2 ALEXANDER
3 (DTS) BEFORE SUNSET
4 (DOLBY) THE INCREDIBLE

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 AFTER THE SUNSET
2 NATIONAL TREASURE
3 TAXI
4 FOREVER MY LOVE

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 BCUZ OF U
2 WICKER PARK
3 (DOLBY) OUT OF REACH
4 (DTS) TAXI

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) ALEXANDER
2 SAW
3 (DTS EX) BRIDGET JONES
4 NATIONAL TREASURE

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121
1 BCUZ OF U
2 ALEXANDER
3 (DOLBY) NATIONAL TREASURE
4 (DTS) BRIDGET JONES

Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489
1 BCUZ OF U
2 WICKER PARK
3 (DOLBY) AFTER THE SUNSET
4 (DTS) BEFORE SUNSET

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 SKY CAPTAIN
2 SHARK TALE

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 7953320
1 PASIYAM
2 BCUZ OF U
3 (DOLBY) NATIONAL TREASURE

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1 ALEXANDER
2 PA-SIYAM
3 AFTER THE SUNSET
4 TAXI
5 NATIONAL TREASURE

LIPA (043) 757-3884 (043) 312-5870
1 AFTER THE SUNSET
2 SAW
3 THE GRUDGE
4 TAXI
5 NATIONAL TREASURE

DASMARIÑAS (046) 862-2126 (046) 416-4332
1 FIRST DAUGHTER
2 AFTER THE SUNSET
3 SURVIVING CHRISTMAS
4 NATIONAL TREASURE
5 SEED OF CHUCKY

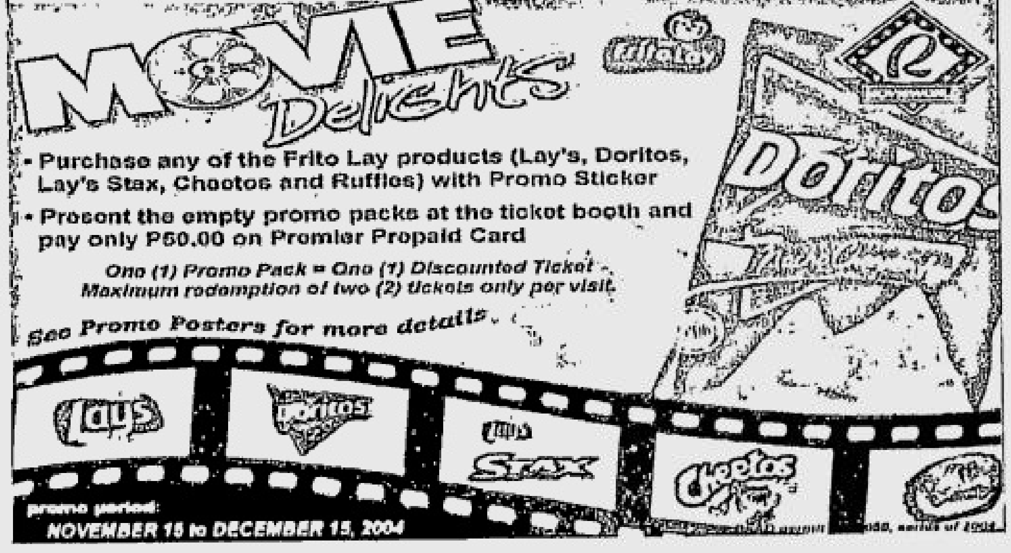
ANGELES (045) 892-2348
1 NATIONAL TREASURE
2 SAW
3 BRIDGET JONES 2
4 ALEXANDER

IMUS (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188
1 SURVIVING CHRISTMAS
2 AFTER THE SUNSET
3 PA-SIYAM
4 NATIONAL TREASURE
5 ALEXANDER
6 SEED OF CHUCKY

STARMILLS (045) 875-1927 (045) 961-5270
1 SAW
2 PA-SIYAM
3 BRIDGET JONES 2
4 NATIONAL TREASURE
5 ALEXANDER
6 SUPERBABIES: BABY GENIUSES 2

BACOLOD (034) 441-0453 (034) 441-0459
1 ALEXANDER
2 THE INCREDIBLES
3 THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE
4 THE GRUDGE
5 THE FORGOTTEN
6 SURVIVING CHRISTMAS

ILOILO (033) 336-8070
1 NATIONAL TREASURE
2 PA-SIYAM
3 ALEXANDER
4 THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE
5 BEFORE SUNSET
6 THE INCREDIBLES



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One (1) Promo Pack = One (1) Discounted Ticket - Maximum redemption of two (2) tickets only per visit.

See Promo Posters for more details.

promo period: NOVEMBER 15 to DECEMBER 15, 2004

SeeMall!

AYALA CINEMAS THX

Movies/schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729-7777

ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4		GB3 GREENBELT 3	ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU
THX 1 ALEXANDER	1 BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON	1 THE POLAR EXPRESS	5 THE INCREDIBLES	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 1 BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON	1 ALEXANDER
2 BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON	2 ALEXANDER	2 SEED OF CHUCKY	6 ALEXANDER	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 2 ALEXANDER	2 BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON
3 SEED OF CHUCKY	3 THE POLAR EXPRESS	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 3 BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON	7 NATIONAL TREASURE	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 THE POLAR EXPRESS	3 FIRST DAUGHTER
4 THE POLAR EXPRESS	4 PASIYAM	4 CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS		GUARANTEED SEATS 4 NATIONAL TREASURE	4 THE FORGOTTEN
5 CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS		GB1 GREENBELT 1		GUARANTEED SEATS 5 SEED OF CHUCKY	5 PASIYAM
		1 BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON			
		2 ALEXANDER			

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
ALADDIN & JASMINE GETS STARSTRUCK December 2 to 5, 2004	"HOLIDAY DRESSING FOR KIDS" FASHION SHOW December 5, 2004	AYALA FOUNDATIONS OPENING CEREMONY December 4 and 5, 2004

ENTERTAINMENT LIVE!

GREENBELT 2	GREENBELT 3
GREENBELT 2: MUSIC STYLES featuring ACOUSTIC JIVE December 3, 7.00pm to 10:00pm	CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT GREENBELT 3 U.P. Vocal Ensemble (Dec. 3 and 5), U.P. Singing Ambassadors (Dec. 4)

onstage!
REPERTORY PHILIPPINES presents THE WIZARD OF OZ at REP's GLOBE THEATER - November 13 to December 19, 2004

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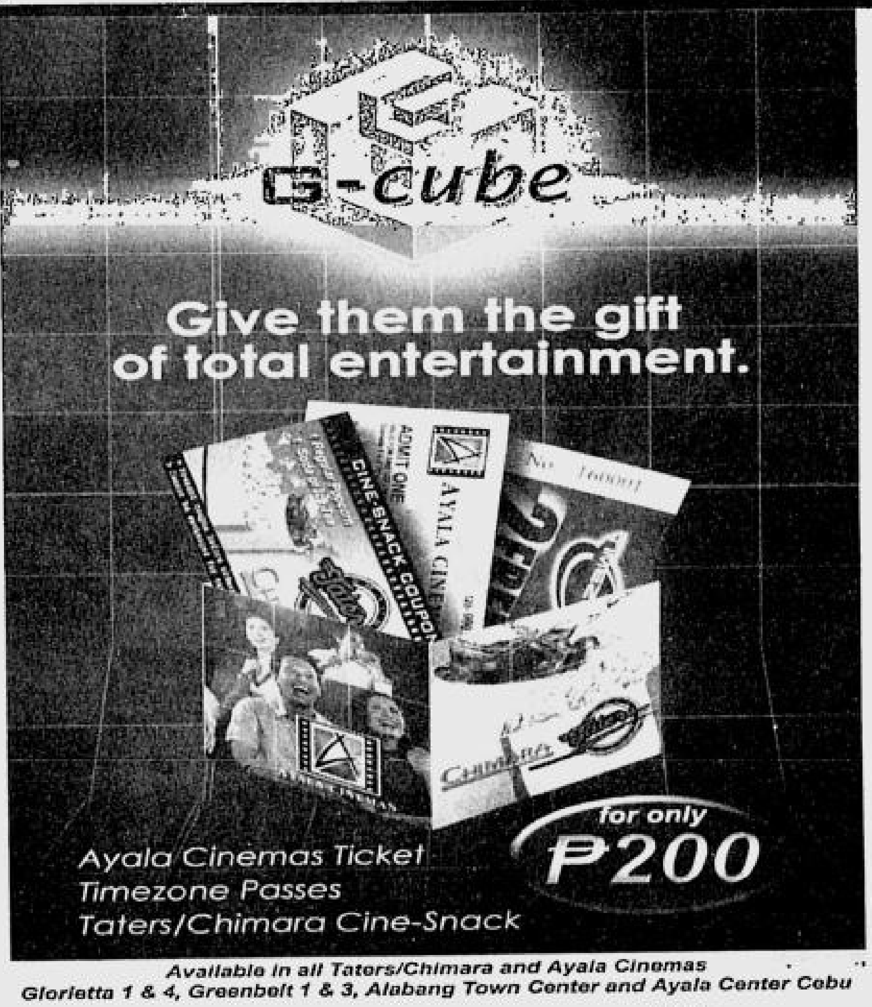
For inquiries, please call 757-7117



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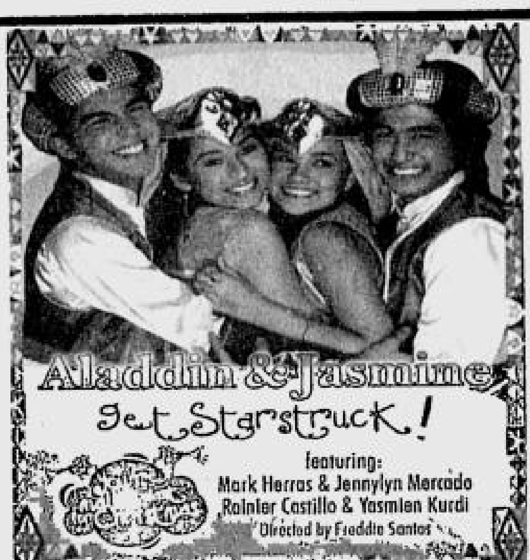
TIMEZONE
AYALA CINEMAS
Taters CHIMARA



Aladdin & Jasmine get Starstruck!
featuring:
Mark Herras & Jennylyn Mercado
Rainier Castillo & Yasmien Kurdi
Directed by Freddie Santos

ALADDIN & JASMINE GET STARSTRUCK
SHOW SCHEDULE:

AYALA CENTER MAKATI
Dec 2 & 3 - 6:30pm
Dec 4 & 5 - 11:30am, 3pm & 6pm
Glorietta Activity Center
Reserved seats for the first 50 Discount Plus Cardholders
Customer Service Hotline 752-7272
Text your comments 0917-6095900

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Dec 10 - 5pm
Dec 11 - 3pm & 6 pm
Dec 12 - 11am, 3pm & 6pm
Activity Center
Customer Service Hotlines: 842-2782 & 772-1660

AYALA CENTER CEBU
Dec 18 - 11am, 4pm & 7:30pm
Dec 19 - 11:30am, 3pm & 6:30pm
Activity Center
Customer Service Hotline: (032) 231-5342 loc. 324

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THE POLAR EXPRESS™
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON... BELIEVE.
NOW SHOWING IN AYALA CINEMAS
MTRCB Rating: General Audience (G)
AYALA CINEMAS

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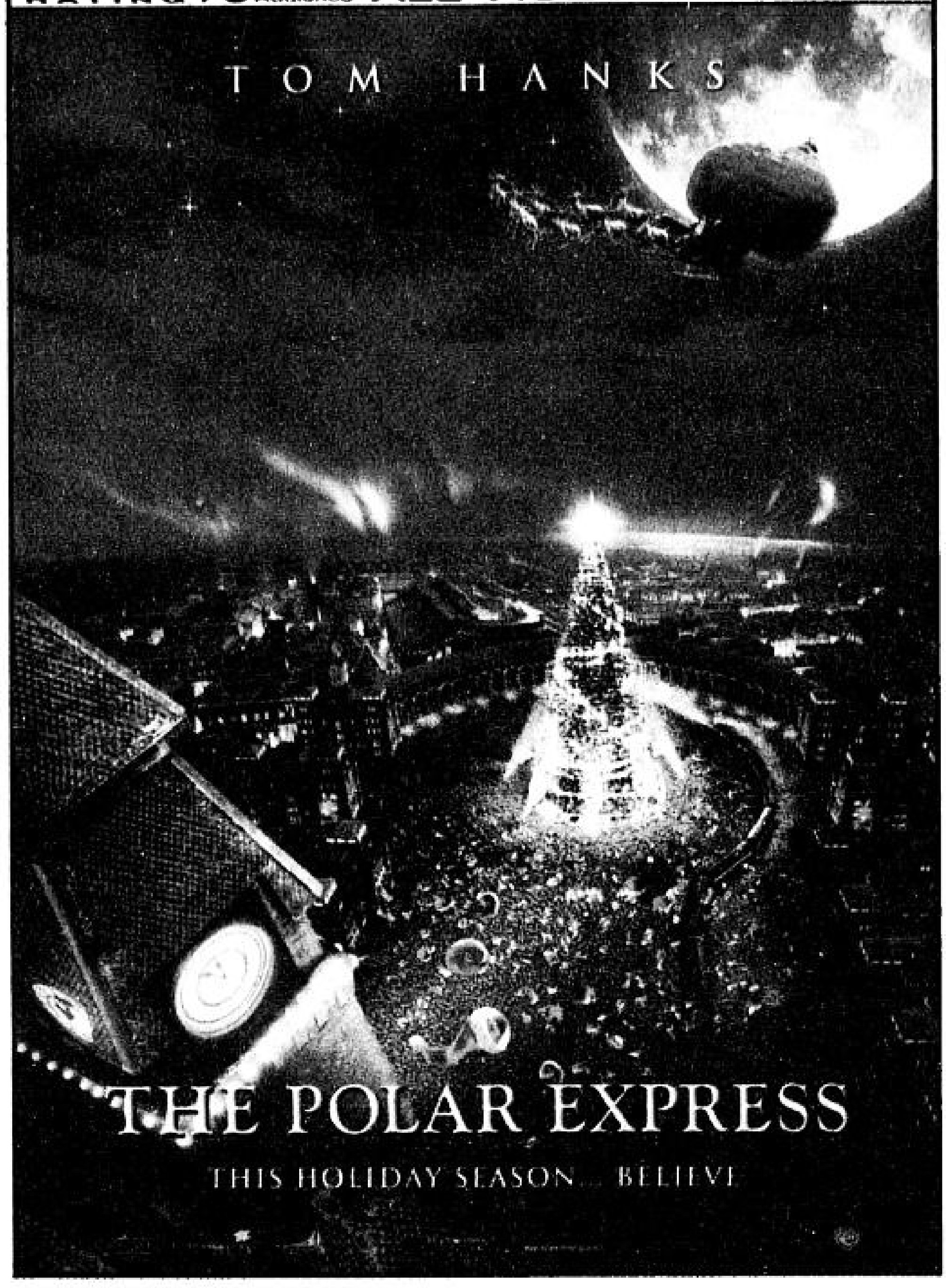
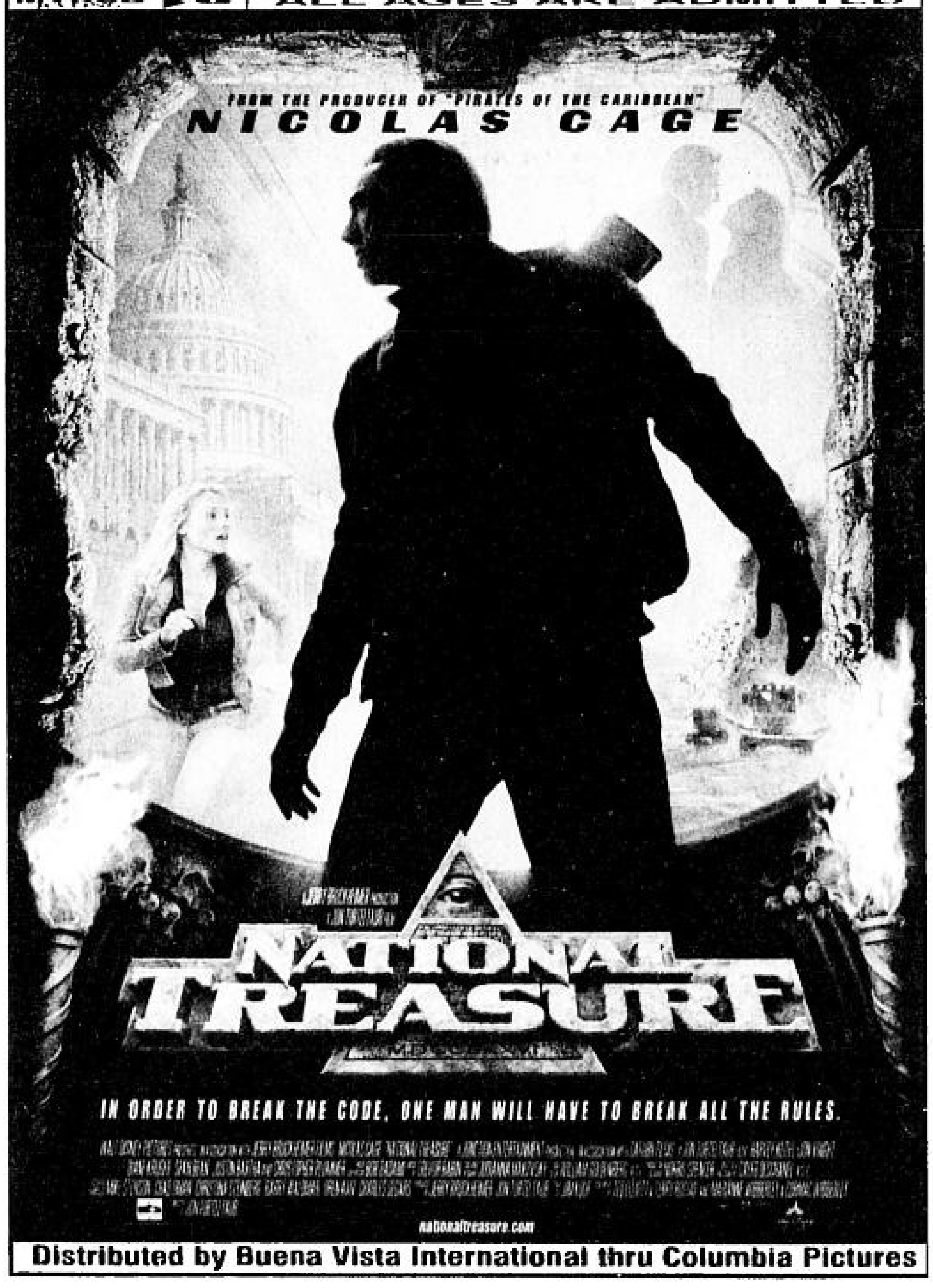
AYALA CENTER
ALABANG TOWN CENTER
AYALA CENTER CEBU
LoveMall!

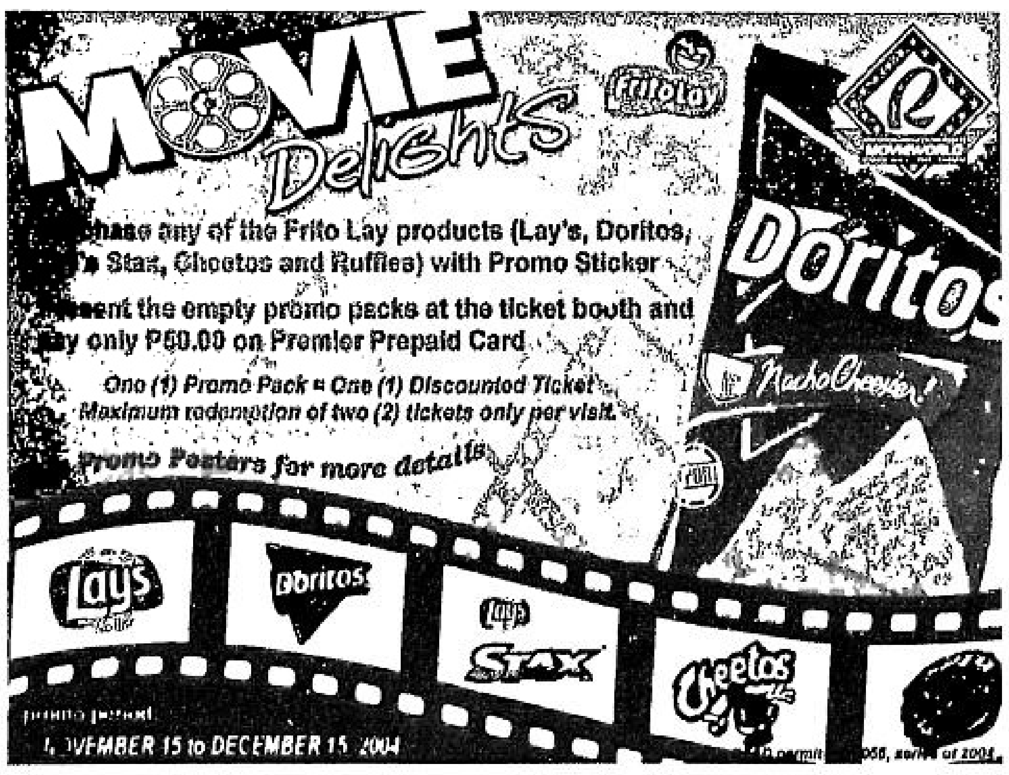
NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Audience ALL AGES ADMITTED


TOM HANKS
THE POLAR EXPRESS
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON... BELIEVE

NOW SHOWING
MTRCB ▶ G ALL AGES ARE ADMITTED


FROM THE PRODUCER OF "PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN"
NICOLAS CAGE
NATIONAL TREASURE
IN ORDER TO BREAK THE CODE, ONE MAN WILL HAVE TO BREAK ALL THE RULES.
nationaltreasure.com

Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures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Lay's
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Lay's STAX
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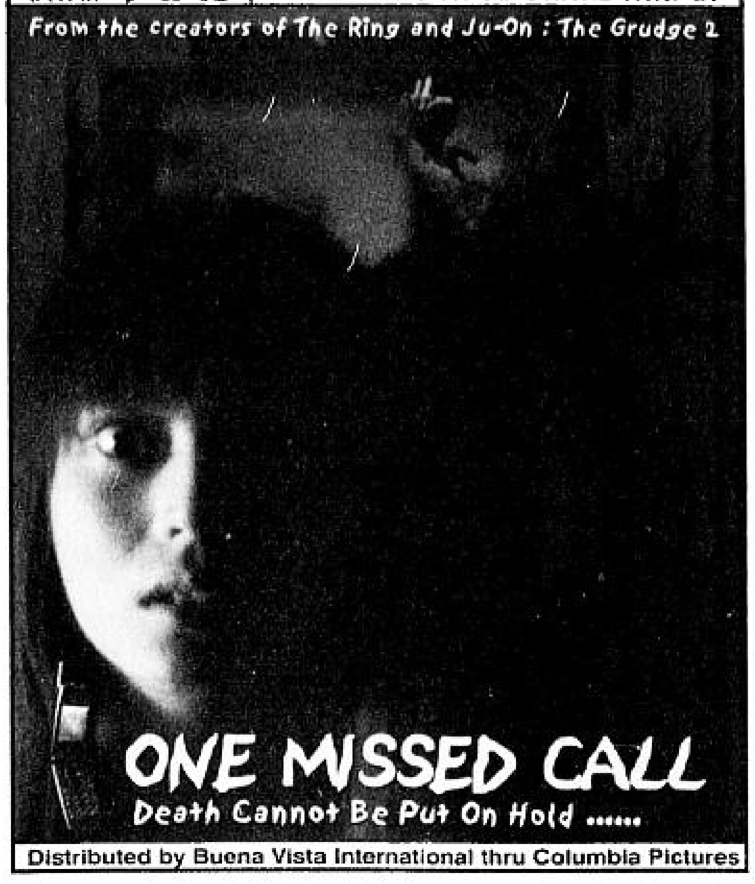
promo period
VEMBER 15 to DECEMBER 15, 2004

permit 056, series of 2004

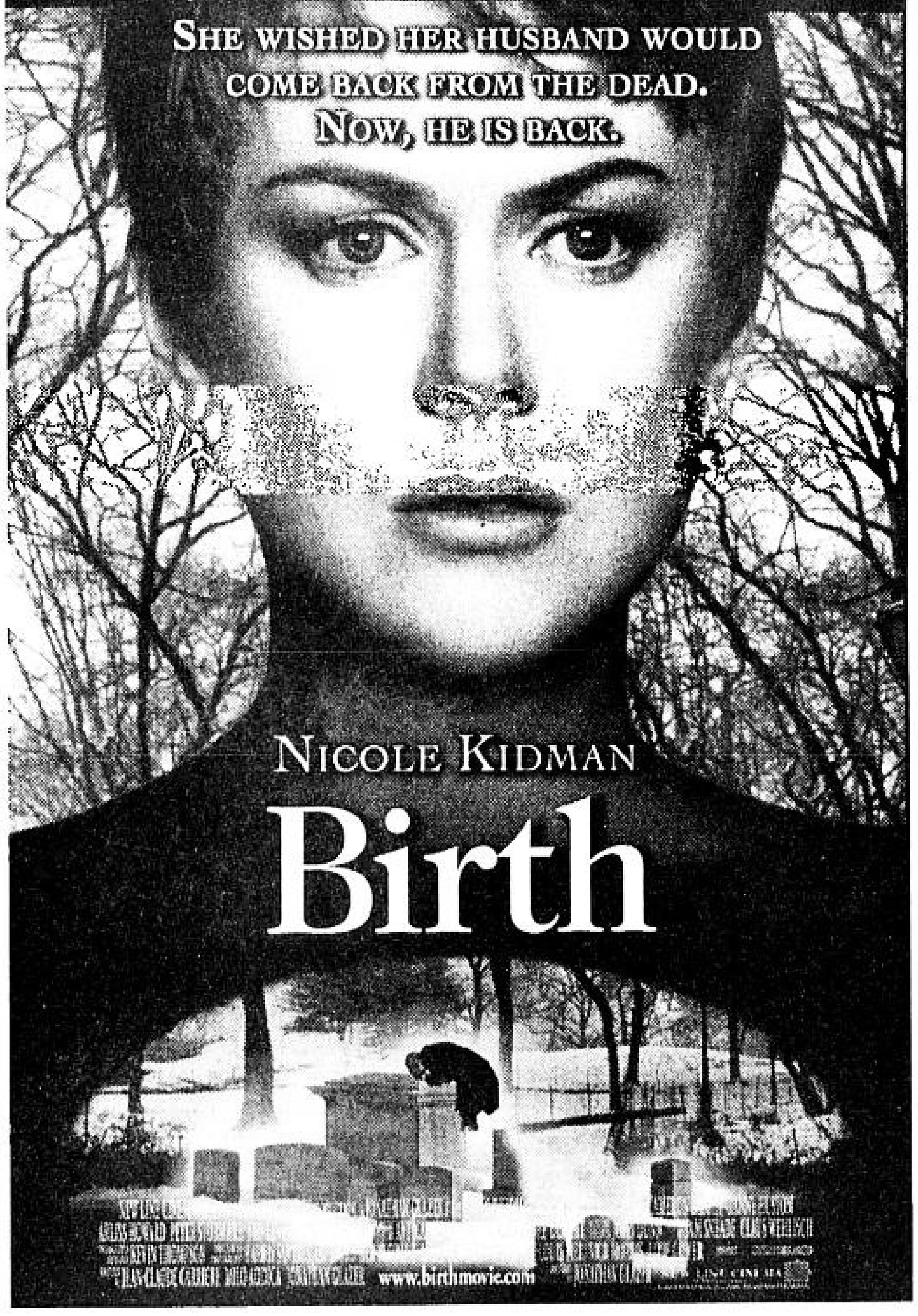
Opens December 8
MTRCB ▶ R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS AND UP
From the creators of The Ring and Ju-On : The Grudge 2


ONE MISSED CALL
Death Cannot Be Put On Hold ......

Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

BRIGHTER AND BRIGHTER
Popstar Sarah Geronimo shines even brighter. Sarah recently received a quintuple platinum award from composer and record producer Vehnee Saturno (left) and Viva Records A & R director Eugene Villaluz for her first album, "Popstar...A Dream Come True," which features hits such as "Forever's Not Enough," "If Only," "Broken Vow" (duet with Mark Bautista) and "Sa Iyo." The album has sold more than 150,000 units. Sarah is promoting her new album, "Sweet Sixteen." She will have a Grand Fans Day on Dec. 12, 2 p.m. at SM North Edsa, sponsored by Video City, Skechers, Red Box Karaoke, Freego Jeans and Shirts, Charmee, MYX and Discovery Suites.

OPENS DECEMBER 8
A HAUNTING THRILLER THAT WILL KEEP YOU GUESSING UNTIL THE VERY END.


SHE WISHED HER HUSBAND WOULD COME BACK FROM THE DEAD. NOW, HE IS BACK.
NICOLE KIDMAN
Birth
www.birthmovie.com

National fetish for...

From page A2-5

and directed by **Floy Quintos.**

On Dec. 10 and 11, the play will be presented at the CCP's Tanghalang Huseng Batute. Call 879-5745.

'U Gotta Feel Me'

LIL' FLIP'S third album, "U Gotta Feel Me," is a two-disc collection of street-smart savvy mixed with crossover appeal.

The 21-track album features collaborations with hip-hop stars and fresh talents, like **Ludacris** in "Bring Da Pain" and **Cam-ron** "All I know."

ABS-CBN shows

BOBOT Mortiz makes his comeback on ABS-CBN with his guest appearance on Dec. 4 in "Home Along D' Airport." Also, see how the **Alyssa Gibbs-Camille Prats** rivalry affects the whole "Hada" neighborhood. And **Aubrey Miles** openly admires **Carlo Maceda.**

And, on Dec. 5 on "Ang Tanging Ina," **Ai-Ai** exposes the truth as she attends her first Senate inquiry!

OPENS DECEMBER 8

WANTED:
Orlando Bloom
NED KELLY
BASED ON A TRUE STORY

as Joe Byrne, AGE: 21
Joe Byrne was one of the most wanted man in British controlled Australia. But for the oppressed masses, he was a hero. A member of the infamous Kelly gang, he stole from the rich and gave to the poor.

Ready to face off against the police. The Kelly Gang did their best to protect themselves from gunfire. Making use of homemade steel helmets and chest plates to stop bullets. (PHOTO BELOW)

SM CINEMA movietime

moviepickoftheWeek

RENÉE ZELLWEGER HUGH GRANT COLIN FIRTH

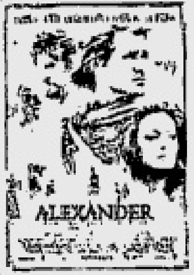
BRIDGET JONES
THE EDGE OF REASON
SAME BRIDGET. BRAND NEW DIARY.

Big Liar
Big Lawyer
Big Problem

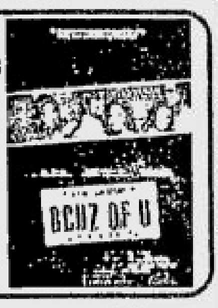
Solar Entertainment Corporation

| whattowatch |

ALEXANDER Subject to MTRCB RATING
SM Baguio Cinema 3
SM Cagayan Cinema 1
SM Iloilo Cinema 3
SM Cebu Cinema 8
SM Pampanga Cinema 3
SM Davao Cinema 1
SM Bacoor Cinema 3



BCUZ OF U Subject to MTRCB RATING
SM Dasmariñas Cinema 3
SM Bacoor Cinema 4
SM Davao Cinema 5
SM Cebu Cinema 7
SM Batangas Cinema 2
SM Lucena Cinema 4
SM Pampanga Cinema 1

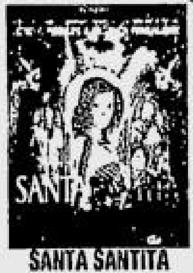


THE INCREDIBLES MTRCB Rating: G
SM Iloilo Cinema 4

BUNNY GUARDS SUBJECT TO MTRCB RATING
SM Davao Cinema 2

NATIONAL TREASURE MTRCB Rating: G
SM Iloilo Cinema 6
SM Pampanga Cinema 4
SM Marilao Cinema 3
SM Batangas Cinema 3
SM Davao Cinema 6
SM Bacoor Cinema 5
SM Cebu Cinema 1
SM Lucena Cinema 1
SM Dasmariñas Cinema 1
SM Baguio Cinema 1

THE POLAR EXPRESS MTRCB RATING: G
SM Batangas Cinema 3
SM Bacoor Cinema 7
SM Cebu Cinema 3



SANTA SANTITA MTRCB Rating: PG13
SM Bacoor Cinema 1

Movies are subject to change without prior notice • For complete movie schedule, visit www.smcinema.com

SHOW TIME

"CINDERELLA STORY" with Hilary Duff and Chad Michael Murray

Hilary Duff, Olsens on original videos

HILARY Duff's "Cinderella Story" and the Olsen twins' first feature film, "New York Minute," will soon be released on Video by Warner Home Video.

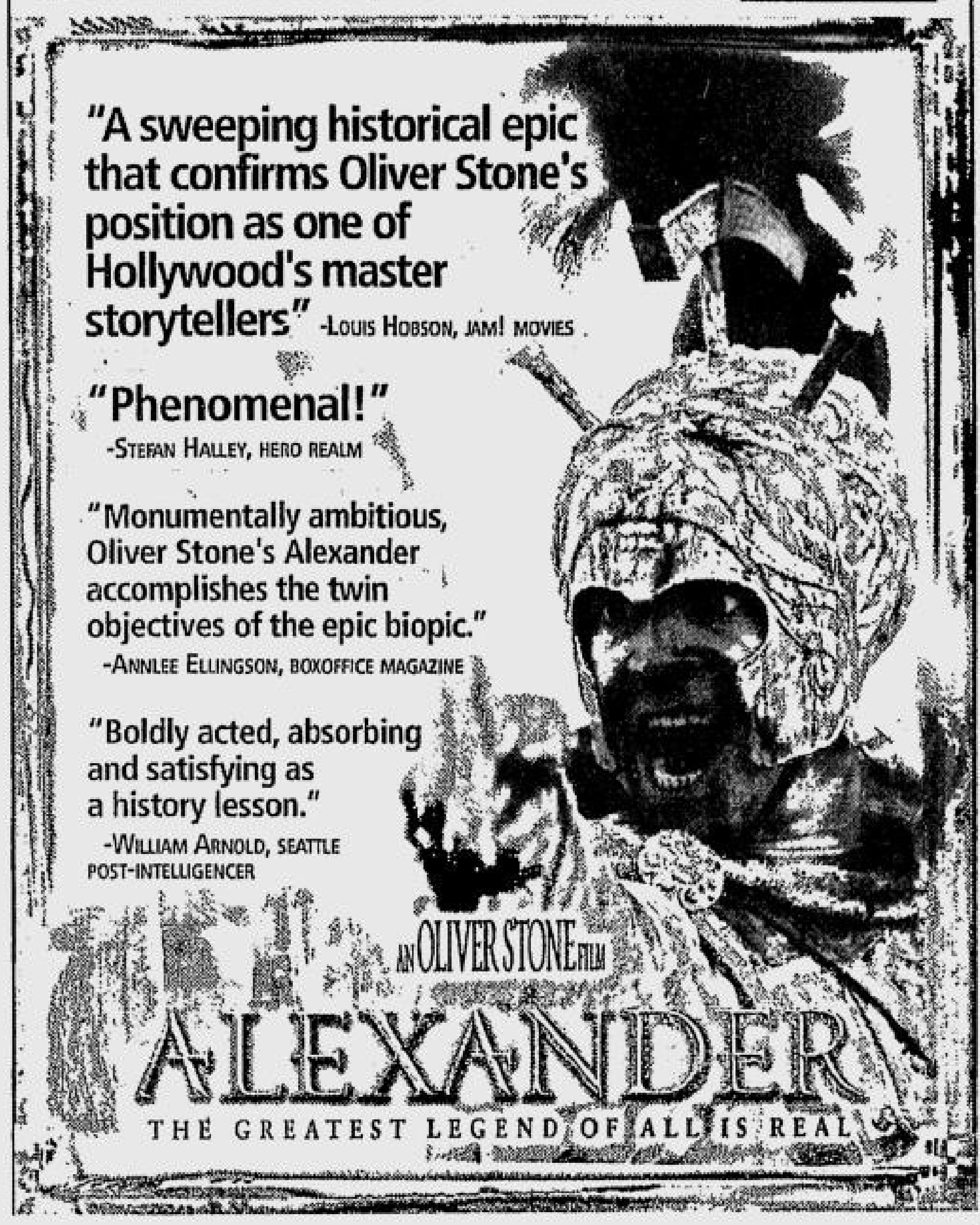
First known for their roles as 9-month-old babies in the ABC sitcom "Full House," Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen have ventured into more mature roles in "New York Minute." They play Jane and Roxy, twins who are exact opposites, one a conservative goody-goody and the other a punk and daredevil.

Hilary Duff recreates the struggles and adventures of Cinderella in a modern-day setting in "Cinderella Story." She plays the enslaved Sam Montgomery who meets, through the Internet, her prince charming Austin Ames (Chad Michael Murray), who happens to be a popular football player in her university.

Original copies of "Cinderella Story" and "New York Minute" will be available for P595 (DVD) and P250 (VCD).

"NEW YORK MINUTE" with Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsens

2ND WEEK - NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▸ R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP
ONE OF THE BIGGEST FILMS OF THE YEAR!
NOW BREAKING BOXOFFICE RECORDS IN MANILA!



"A sweeping historical epic that confirms Oliver Stone's position as one of Hollywood's master storytellers" -LOUIS HOBSON, JAM! MOVIES

"Phenomenal!" -STEFAN HALLEY, HERO REALM

"Monumentally ambitious, Oliver Stone's Alexander accomplishes the twin objectives of the epic biopic." -ANNLEE ELLINGSON, BOXOFFICE MAGAZINE

"Boldly acted, absorbing and satisfying as a history lesson." -WILLIAM ARNOLD, SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER

AN OLIVER STONE FILM
ALEXANDER
THE GREATEST LEGEND OF ALL IS REAL

MTRCB ▸ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
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MLR Films presents
CHRISTIAN VAZQUEZ
TIRSO CRUZ III RIO LOCSIN
DIMPLES ROMANA CRISELDA VOLKS
Introducing RU MIRANDA
JOMARI YLLANA ARA MINA
Dahil, minsan sa buhay ko, ikaw ay dumating.
ARMANDO LAO'S
Minsan Pa
A JEFFREY JETURIAN FILM
CLUSIVOL
ALASKA POWDERED FILLED MILK
GRADED B BY THE CINEMA EVALUATION BOARD

NOW SHOWING
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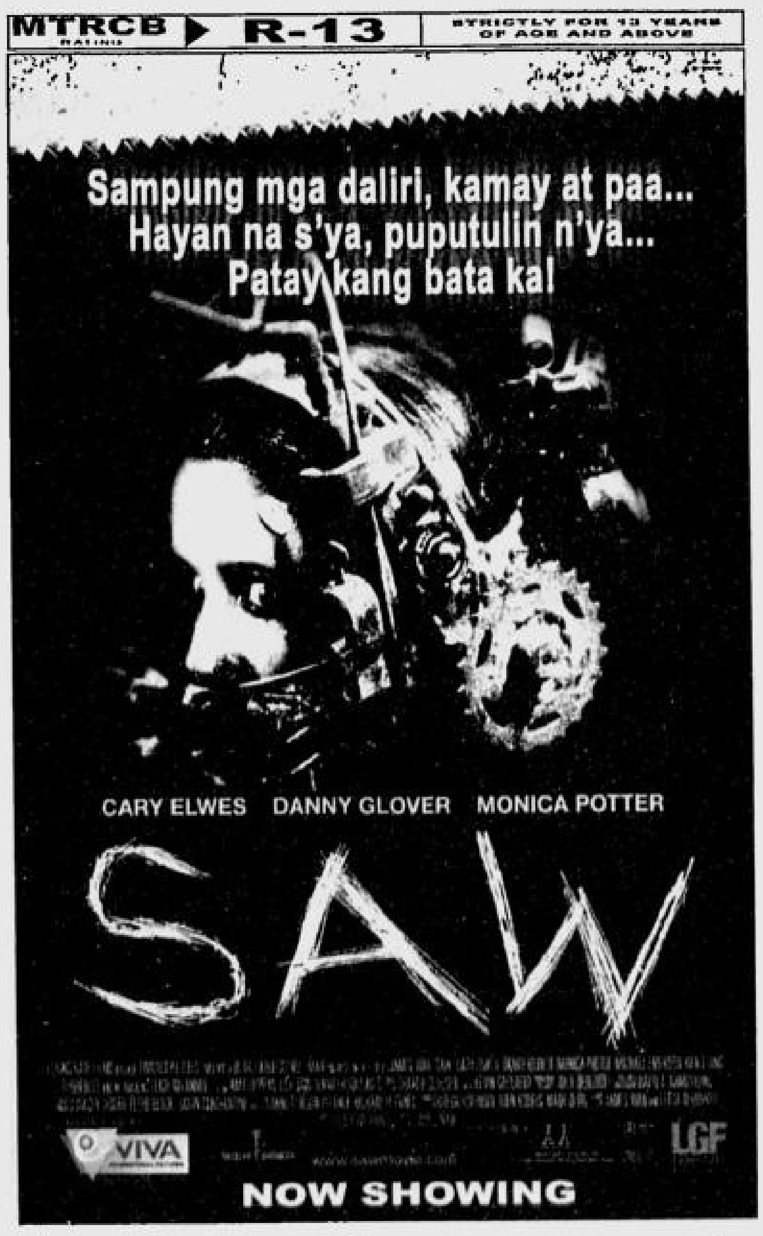
POWERPLANT • GLORIETTA • G-BELT • MARKETMARKET • ALABANGTOWN • FILINVEST • METROPOLIS • ROBINSON-galleria • ROBINSON-pioneer • ROBINSON-ermita • CINERAMA • ROBINSON nova • ROBINSON-dasma • ROBINSON-imus • GOTESCOCOM • ALIMALL • GOTESCO-ortigas • STA LUCIA • METROEAST • WALTERMART-calamba • LIANAS • PAVILION-biñan • ROBINSON-sta.rosa
MAPAPAOS KA SA KASISIGAW

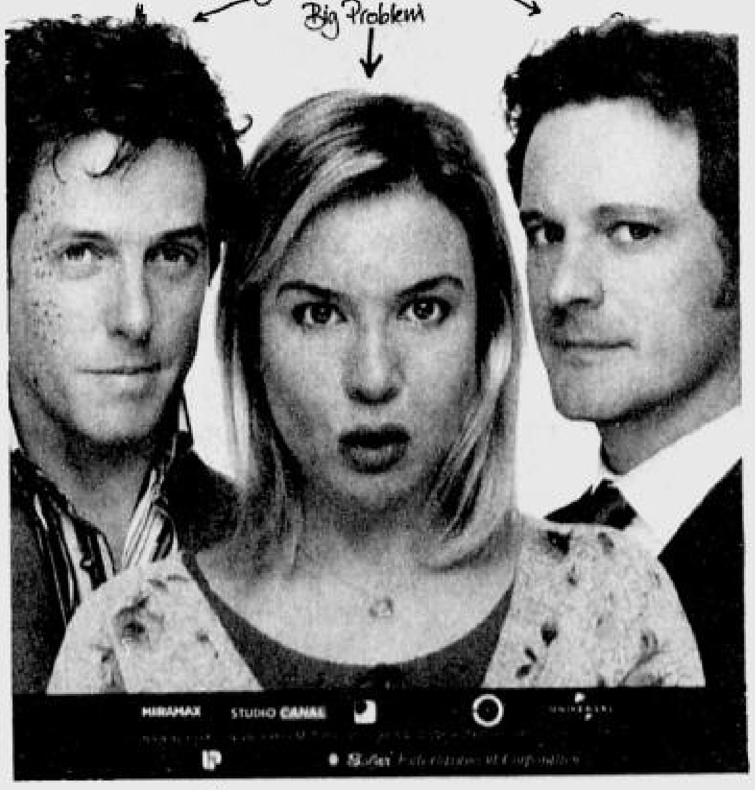
Featuring the voice of BILLY BOYD (of "The Lord of the Rings")
CHUCKY
TIFFANY
JENNIFER TILLY
REDMAN
SEED OF CHUCKY
WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

MTRCB RATING ▸ R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND ABOVE



Sampung mga daliri, kamay at paa...
Hayan na s'ya, puputulin n'ya...
Patay kang bata ka!
CARY ELWES DANNY GLOVER MONICA POTTER
SAW
VIVA
LGF
NOW SHOWING

NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▸ PG-13 PARENTS ARE STRONGLY CAUTIONED AGAINST BRINGING VERY YOUNG CHILDREN BELOW 10 YEARS OLD.
RENÉE ZELLWEGER HUGH GRANT COLIN FIRTH
BRIDGET JONES
THE EDGE OF REASON
SAME BRIDGET. BRAND NEW DIARY.



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4. New Gentxt members start generating points for the promo only on the day he/she is fully registered within the promo period.

Promo Duration: December 1, 2004 – January 19, 2005

See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit# 3125, Series of 2004.

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3. Enter 1234 when asked for PIN to save the settings.
4. Send an MMS message for only P3.00 to activate the service.

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Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

DOE seeks review of oil deregulation law

By Abigail L. Ho

ENERGY Secretary Vincent Perez yesterday said he would recommend to Malacañang an independent review of Republic Act No. 8479, or the Downstream Oil Industry Deregulation Act of 1998, to determine whether amendments to the law were needed.

In a speech during a Makati Business Club meeting yesterday, Perez said "the future of the deregulated oil industry" would depend on the results of this review.

"The public perception now is that the deregulation of the industry has been the cause for the unmitigated rise in oil prices. With the thorough independent review that we'll be proposing, consultations will be held with all (concerned) sectors nationwide," he said.

He added that these consultations would be an integral part of efforts to come up with a "renewed consensus on the future of the downstream oil industry."

"If, at the end of the review, the review body would find that the existing law had to be revised, then necessary changes would be made," he said.

On the part of the business sector, MBC executive director Guillermo Luz said the proposed review of the Oil Deregulation Law should be considered "with an open mind."

"The DOE's suggestion, after all, was only for the existing law to be reviewed and that no judgment had been passed."

"The DOE has not expressed its side on the matter. The review doesn't mean that anything will be changed. It's important for everyone to look at it with an open mind," he said.

Perez refrained from giving a hint on how the DOE felt about the existing law, saying that he did not want to taint the review process with certain biases.

He declined to reveal the details of the DOE's recommendation, saying he wanted to first discuss the matter with President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Various militant groups, including party-list Anakpawis and the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, had called for the repeal of the Oil Deregulation Law.

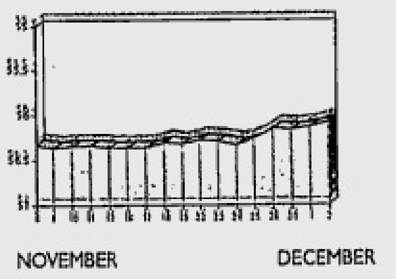
They said the law was the very root of the country's problems on the high prices of oil, as it allowed local oil firms to adjust their prices without consulting the government.

ORDER OF SIKATUNA FOR ADB CHIEF
President Macapagal-Arroyo confers on outgoing Asian Development Bank president Tadao Chino the Order of Sikatuna, with a rank of datu, in a simple ceremony in Malacañang. Chino's resignation as ADB president will take effect Jan. 31 next year.

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO-DOLLAR RATE



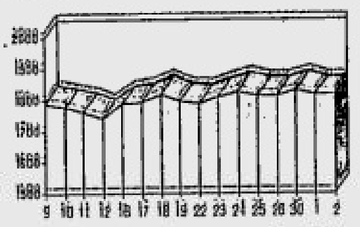
₱ 56.08 = $ 1
As of 5 p.m., Dec. 2, 2004

¥ 102.03 = $ 1
As of 5 p.m., Dec. 2, 2004

GOLD: $ 450.20-450.70
per ounce Hong Kong, Nov. 30, 2004

STOCK MARKET

Mining stocks shine, main index flat



(See stock market report on Page B6)

MINING stocks surged yesterday after a court order reopened the sector to foreign players, but a drop in telecom stocks weighed on the overall market.

Shares in number-one telecoms firm Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) and second-ranked Globe Telecom Inc. fell on concerns about the effect of a franchise tax on the industry being debated by lawmakers.

The main index ended up 0.03 percent at 1,816.99 points. The mining index jumped 19.65 percent. Value turnover reached 1.08 billion pesos ($19.34 million) as gainer beat losers 52 to 29.

The most heavily traded mining stock was Manila Mining Corp. whose B shares, open to both foreigners and locals, jumped 12 percent

MINING/B2

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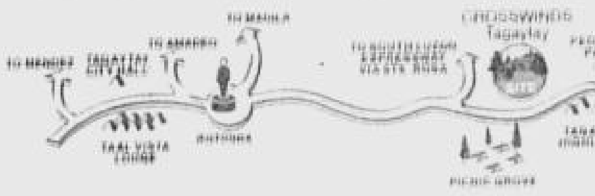

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Masinloc sale seen to save RP from ratings downgrade

By Michelle V. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT of Finance is optimistic that the sale of the 600-megawatt Masinloc power plant, the largest asset of state-owned National Power Corp., could help save the Philippines from a costly credit-rating downgrade.

According to Finance Secretary Juanita Amatong, ratings agency Moody's Investors Service might take into consideration the successful bidding of the coal-fired power plant last Wednesday in their assessment of the country's fiscal situation.

The finance chief said Masinloc, which was sold for $561.74 million, already accounted for 80 percent of Napocor's assets that were targeted for privatization in 2005. The revenue that would be generated from the sale could significantly help Napocor in meeting its liabilities.

Proceeds of the sale would be of a big help to the government, which had decided to absorb the power firm's debts.

"Masinloc is a major asset of Napocor, and its sale would be a big leap in its privatization efforts," Amatong, who is also chair of Napocor said in a chance interview with reporters. She added that she was hopeful the sale of Masinloc would convince Moody's to abort plans of downgrading the Philippines' credit rating.

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Buenaventura said the country's credibility improved due to the Masinloc privatization and the Supreme Court ruling allowing foreign ownership in mining projects.

The 600-megawatt Masinloc plant, which is located in Zamboanga, was awarded to YNN Pacific Consortium Inc., a Filipino-Australian group. Its offer bested that of the only other bidder, the Lopez-owned First Generation Holdings Inc.

Officials of Moody's, who are in the country to evaluate the country's economic environment, earlier warned that the government's fiscal problem was putting pressure on the country's credit rating.

The existing Moody's rating on the Philippines is Ba2, or two notches below investment grade.

A credit ratings downgrade triggers rise in spreads on sovereign debt papers which increases the cost of government borrowings. Should this happen, the country's fiscal problem, characterized by huge budget deficit and debt, would be aggravated.

But Amatong said Moody's should consider the developments in the country's fiscal sector, including the progress in the legislation of the proposed revenue-raising measures of the Arroyo administration and privatization of Masinloc, in making its ratings on the Philippines.

She added that the commitment given by legislators to pass at least three revenue-raising measures before the end of the year—the bills on sin taxes, lateral attrition for revenue-collecting agencies, lifting of value-added tax exemptions—would boost the government's chances of meeting its goal of wiping out the budget deficit in the medium term.

The government's budget deficit is expected to hit P197.8 billion by year-end. Its debt has already reached P3.5 trillion as of the first half.

In the meantime, Buenaventura said the Supreme Court ruling on the mining sector was expected to bring in more foreign direct investments and, therefore, help the BSP build up its gross international reserves level.

He said this would allow the mining sector, which accounted for less than 2 percent of the country's gross domestic product, to make a more significant contribution. *With reports from Doris C. Dumlao, Abigail L. Ho*

UCPB earns ₱2.2B from property sales

By Doris C. Dumlao

UNITED Coconut Planters Bank has unloaded 500 more of its idle properties through a recent public auction, bringing to P2.2 billion the non-performing assets sold through retail deals this year.

The bank continues to make steady progress in liquefying its real and other properties owned or acquired (ROPOAs), said Christine Carandang, UCPB vice president.

Carandang heads UCPB's asset management and disposition division, a dedicated unit of the bank that focuses on disposing its NPAs.

The bank recently unloaded P500 million worth of residential properties in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, marking the first time that UCPB auctioned off acquired assets outside of Metro Manila.

It was the third such auction for the bank this year. A fourth auction is being planned early next year.

Apart from public auctions and retail sales, UCPB is also aggressively pursuing tie-ups with well-known property developers to develop select real estate properties acquired by the bank.

The bank has so far inked a development agreement with Sta. Lucia Realty and Development, Inc. and another private landowner to develop a 12.25-hectare property in the outskirts of Tagaytay City. The turning it into a middle-income residential subdivision. Under the agreement, UCPB and the private landowners will contribute the land while Sta. Lucia Realty will shoulder all the developmental costs.

UCPB is working on two other development agreements, one involving an 86-hectare property in the Muntinlupa-Cavite area and the other a 21-hectare property in Calamba, Laguna.

The bank is also set to sell P13.6 billion worth of idle properties to a unit of Korean investment management firm Shinhan M&A through the Special Purpose Vehicle framework.

SMC set to issue additional shares

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

SAN MIGUEL Corp. (SMC), the country's largest food and beverage company, will issue additional shares out of its treasury stock.

The planned issue is expected to account for 10 percent of its outstanding capital stock.

As of September, SMC's outstanding shares were placed at 2.85 billion shares.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange, SMC said its board approved the issuance of additional shares. Existing shareholders will have the pre-emptive right or the right to subscribe to the additional issuance at a ratio of one share for every 10 shares owned.

SMC appointed ABN Amro Rothschild as global coordinator and Sycip Salazar as legal counsel for the offering.

In a related development, strong domestic sales pushed up earnings of SMC's hard liquor unit, Ginebra San Miguel Inc., by 10 percent to P139 million in October from P127 million a year earlier.

GSMI said it recorded a 19-percent increase in sales in October, following aggressive sales and marketing efforts backed by GSMI's "Bilog ang Mundo" campaign. The company reported an upsurge in GSM Round (gin) and Vino Kulafu (Chinese wine) sales. Gran Matador (brandy) also posted improvements in sales, with volume during the January-October period rising 929 percent above last year.

Operating income was up 6 percent to P228 million from P214 million.

GSMI's 10-month net income grew 5 percent year-on-year to P1.45 billion, while its operating income for the period rose 7 percent to P2.272 billion from P2.121 billion.

Mining . . .

From page B1

to 2.8 centavos.

Manila Mining-A, which is restricted to Filipinos, rose 10.53 percent to 2.1 centavos. The firm, an affiliate of Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co. , used to mine gold bullion and copper but ceased operations in 2001. Lepanto rose 28.57 percent or 8 centavos to 36 centavos.

The Philippine Supreme Court on Wednesday reversed a ruling that quashed parts of a law allowing foreign companies to own a 100 percent stake in mining projects.

In its new decision, the court said the constitution allowed the government to enter into service contracts with firms in large exploration, development and utilization of minerals, petroleum and mineral oils.

Horacio Ramos, head of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau, said revenues from mining could be a way out of the government's fiscal problem—a $3.5 billion annual budget deficit and rising debt burden.

The Philippines is rich in gold and copper but remains one of the least-explored countries in region.

"The mining stocks surged due to the court order but the telecoms dragged the market said Eagle Equities President Joey Roxas.

"Lawmakers are deliberating today the franchise tax on telecoms. The government and congress leaders have said it was on the priority list to help raise more revenues for the government," Roxas said.

PLDT, the country's largest firm in terms of market capitalization with $4.13 billion, fell P15 or 1.10 percent to P1,345 . Globe fell P5 or 0.51 percent to P980 .

Roxas expects the market to slowly creep higher in the coming sessions with resistance at 1,840 as investors absorb news the government successfully sold its first major power plant to a Filipino-Australian group on Wednesday for $560 million.

Analysts have said the auction of the plant, built at a cost of $530 million in 1998, was a crucial test of investor interest in the power sector and the country as a whole. *Reuters*

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Down the drain

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

THE GOVERNMENT Service Insurance System is one of the bigger casualties of the sudden closure of the American Standard manufacturing operations in the country.

According to the grapevine, the GSIS has about 9 percent stake in the US-controlled bathroom fixtures manufacturing plant through the publicly listed Sanitary Wares Manufacturing Corp.

The GSIS block was acquired during the 1989 go-go days for P148 million and it held on to it, keeping faith in the American expatriate management, despite the foreign fund managers selling down the stock these past few years.

Notwithstanding its sizable shareholding, the GSIS bloc had no board representation in the seven-member Saniwares board, and had to rely on the public pronouncements and SEC reports to keep itself abreast of the company plans, which was still upbeat with a turnaround story as late as the third quarter filing.

GSIS is not alone

INVESTMENT banker Gregorio Yu, representing the Solar Securities group which has a slightly bigger stake than GSIS, had hardly warmed his board seat after a three-year battle to gain representation when he was caught off-guard by the closure decision. Also caught off-guard were significant minority shareholders—stock market wizard Wilson Sy, ACG Builder's Centre and Jose Santos of Prudential Bank.

According to Saniwares, the company had been bleeding for the past several years, unable to compete with imports despite, strangely, exporting some of its local output to its American parent.

Officially, Saniwares has negative equity when it decided to close Nov. 26, right on the same day the issue was tabled by the board. Whatever assets it may be able to liquidate would first have to go to pay off creditor Citibank.

According to the grapevine, local suppliers have about P700 million in combined exposure to Saniwares, and there is no guarantee that they can ever be repaid.

Fort's water woes

THE FAST-FOOD stall operators of the new Market!Market! in The Fort are drowning in their own version of killer storm Winnie over their water bills.

For example, a stall owner who used to pay an average of P500 a month for water usage in her previous strip mall stall turned livid when shown a P38,000 monthly bill for her 20-meter stall in the new Ayala market-mall.

Ayala Land inherited the mutiny-inducing rates from the Metro Pacific-Vivendi joint venture that developed the world-class water and sewerage system in the new global city.

Unfortunately, world-class, especially when dollar-denominated, comes with a First World price tag. The Asian currency crisis not only exposed the water venture to devaluation risk, but the projected Fort market base also shrank, resulting in fewer consumers carrying a heavier debt burden.

The good news, according to the grapevine, is that Ayala is now meeting with the restive stallholders to discuss the reduction of their water rates.

But, then again, even if Ayala slashes the rates by half, P19,000 from P500 a month still represents a financial tsunami for a stall that gets by on P55 meals.

(Latebreaker: According to an Ayala Land spokesperson, there are no negotiations with Market!Market! fast-food merchants on any reduction of their water rates. That means the rates, which the spokesperson claim have already gone down "tremendously," would remain.)

Hyatt sizzles

THOSE who love to eat out and tuck down to an all-you-can-eat buffet should check out the coffee shop of the new Hyatt hotel and casino in Ermita.

It is the Bay Area's answer to the

COCKTALES/ B4

PRULINK · PRU LIFE U.K.

Investments of Variable Life Insurance Contracts	Current Week November 30, 2004	Last Week November 23, 2004
Bond Fund - Peso	1.16483	1.16646
Managed Fund - Peso	1.25731	1.25674
Bond Fund - US Dollar	1.0468	1.0503

* Note: These investments of variable life insurance contracts are not mutual funds. Life insurance products are regulated by the Insurance Commission

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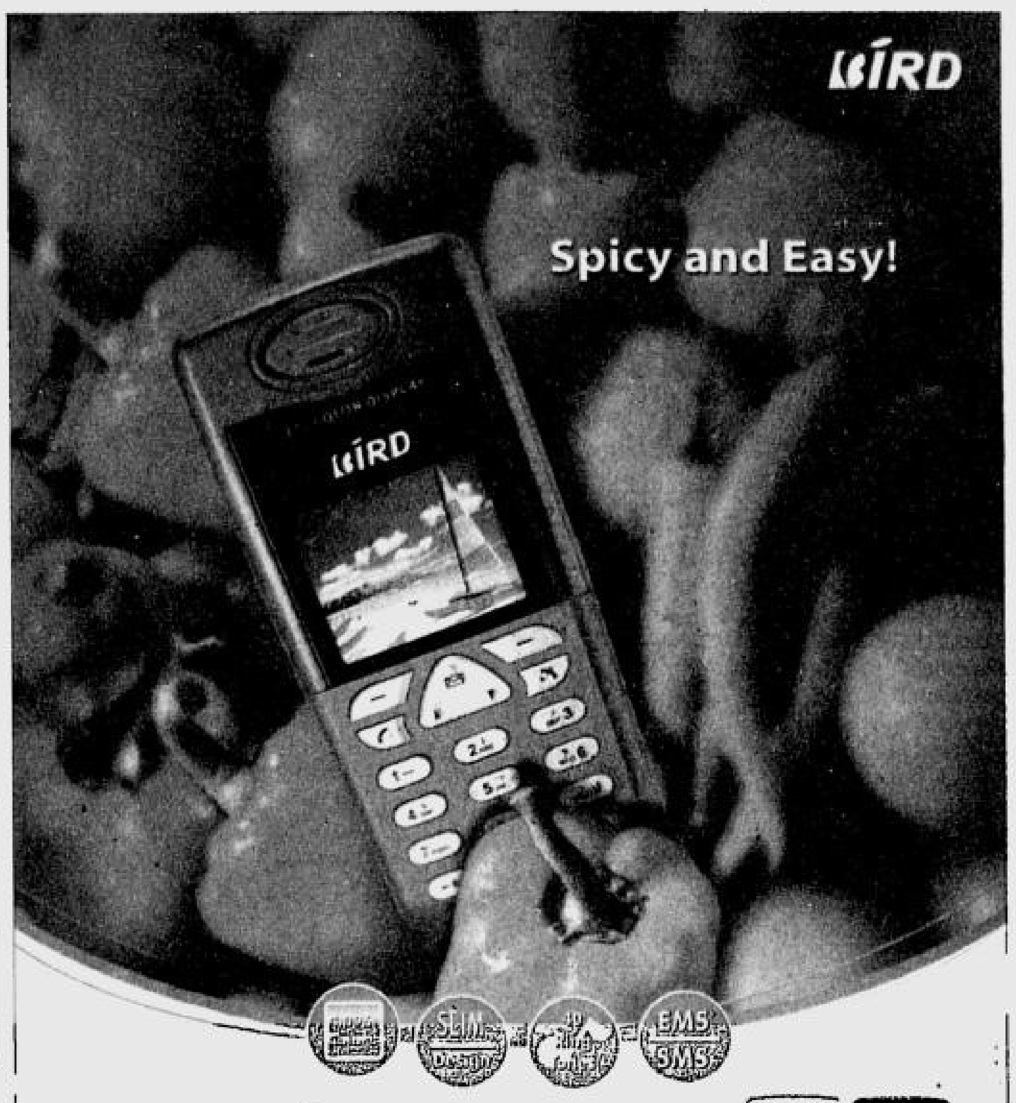

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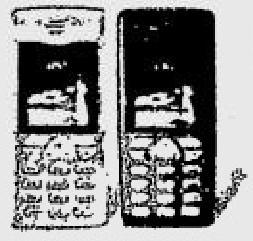

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GLOBAL QUALITY PROJECT

Cocktales ...

From page B3

much-raved about Paseo Uno of Mandarin, even better, according to some, because the café is laid out in sections like market stalls where one can choose Japanese, Chinese and Western dishes and have them cooked on the spot.

Hyatt's own is called, appropriately, Market Café, and it was booked solid Wednesday night, a nothing-special night, despite the hotel being only one-third open.

Even the hotel's 80-plus available rooms, out of the 378 when fully opened, had all been taken up by Japanese and Korean guests at $100 a night, quite high for Bay area hotels.

But then again, the room sizes are positively generous by Korean and Japanese standards. And despite being a casino-hotel, every room has a broadband connection for the business traveler and guests who have to stay work-connected.

And the famed Manila Bay sunset view, of course, is priceless.

(Tip: Those considering buying a condo unit should take a peek at how Hyatt elevated and subdivided the hotel bathroom.)

Short takes

- TOYOTA will open its first joint venture dealership in the country in San Fernando, Pampanga tomorrow, with Toyota Cabanatuan dealer Jose Tan as president.

The Japanese car company will also unveil the new, bigger, roomier Hi-Lux passenger van, which it would make available for test drives to prospective buyers starting next weekend.

- The former law firm of Haydee Yorac, in reaction to a Nov. 22 item, says it was the PCGG chief, before she was drafted into government service, who initiated and won all the way to the Supreme Court the equal-work, equal-pay battle of the International School union.

Heard through the grapevine

MALL operator SM Prime Holdings is meeting with its key concessionaires next week to inform them about a plan to adopt an Ayala-like two-tiered lease scheme, where, in addition to the current percentage of the monthly gross, a new minimum lease rate per square meter would kick in.

(Email: cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com)

LARGE-SCALE CONTRACTS

Gov't to farm out idle mines to private firms

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE GOVERNMENT is looking at farming out to private operators at least five foreclosed or abandoned mines held by the Privatization Management Office, which have assets amounting to P23.9 billion.

These mining concerns include those of Basay Mining Corp., Batong Buhay Gold Mines, North Davao Mining Corp., Nonoc Mining and Industrial Corp.; and Hercules Minerals and Oils Inc.

According to the Department of Trade and Industry, the government was exploring the possibility of creating one company per mining claim, which will be sub-contracted to a private operator. The move is aimed at attracting large-scale mining contracts.

Plans are being rushed considering that mineral prices are currently high and that raising capital is expected to be easy.

Prices of metals are currently at their peaks: copper at $1.44 a pound or 78-percent higher than last year, gold at $453 an ounce or 25-percent higher, silver at $7.82 an ounce or 60-percent higher, and nickel at $7.13 a pound or 63-percent higher.

Trade Undersecretary Elmer C. Hernandez yesterday said in a press briefing that the Board of Investments has available incentives package for mining projects. These include four to six years of income tax holiday, duty-free importation of capital equipment for two years, additional deduction for labor expense, exemption from wharfage dues as well as export tax, impost and fees.

"Bills currently pending in Congress, which are among the government's priority bills, provide for the rationalization of the grant of incentives to all economic activities that the government is promoting," Hernandez said.

He said the proposed bills would enhance the incentives package to priority projects including those in the mining sector, including the extension of tax holidays to eight years.

Hernandez said that since the start of 2004, the BOI was able to register three big mining ventures totaling P1.5 billion. These cover the expansion projects of those of Rio Tuba Nickel Mining Corp., Philex Mining Corp. and Bicol Mineral Development Corp.

DTI data show that there are at least 23 mining and mineral processing projects that have just started or are still in the pipeline.

Of these 23 projects, the seven biggest represent a total of $3 billion in investments and some 4,500 new jobs.

On Wednesday, the Supreme Court ruled that the Mining act of 1995 was lawful, reversing an earlier decision that declared certain provisions of the law unconstitutional.

In 2003, the mining industry yielded a gross production value of P42 billion or 1.5 percent of the countries gross domestic product.

The industry also yielded export receipts of $638 million or 1.8 percent of total exports last year.

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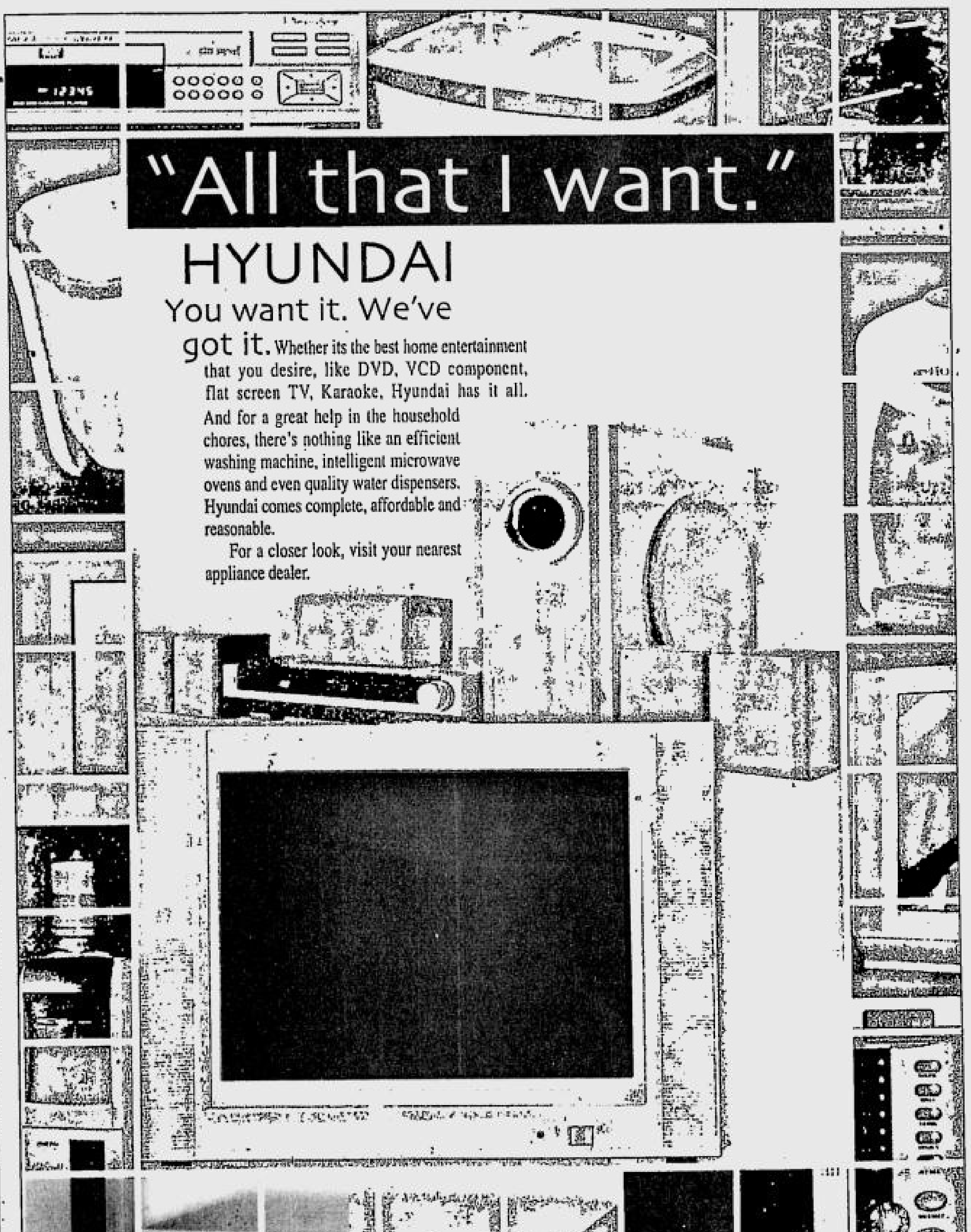
4. Raffle draw will be held on January 30, 2005 at 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon at the Monarc Furnishings' Showroom located at SM Fairview Annex, Lower Ground Floor, Regalado Ave., Fairview, Quezon City under the supervision of a DTI representative.
5. All winners can only win once. In case a name is drawn more than once he/she gets the prize of higher value.
6. All winners will be notified thru registered mail and their names will also be published in a newspaper of general circulation.
7. Winners can claim their prize at our head office from 8:30 am to 6:30 pm, Mondays to Saturdays and look for the Visual Merchandising Officer. Winners need to present the registered mail sent, claim stub and any valid ID (i.e. passport, driver's license, company or school ID).
8. The winner shall pay the 20% tax for prizes exceeding Php 10,000.00.
9. Prizes must be claimed within 60 days from receipt of registered mail otherwise unclaimed prizes shall be forfeited in favor of Monarc Furnishings' with prior DTI approval.
10. All employees of Monarc Furnishings and their suppliers and including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified to join this raffle promo.
Per DTI-NCR permit No. 2997 series of 2004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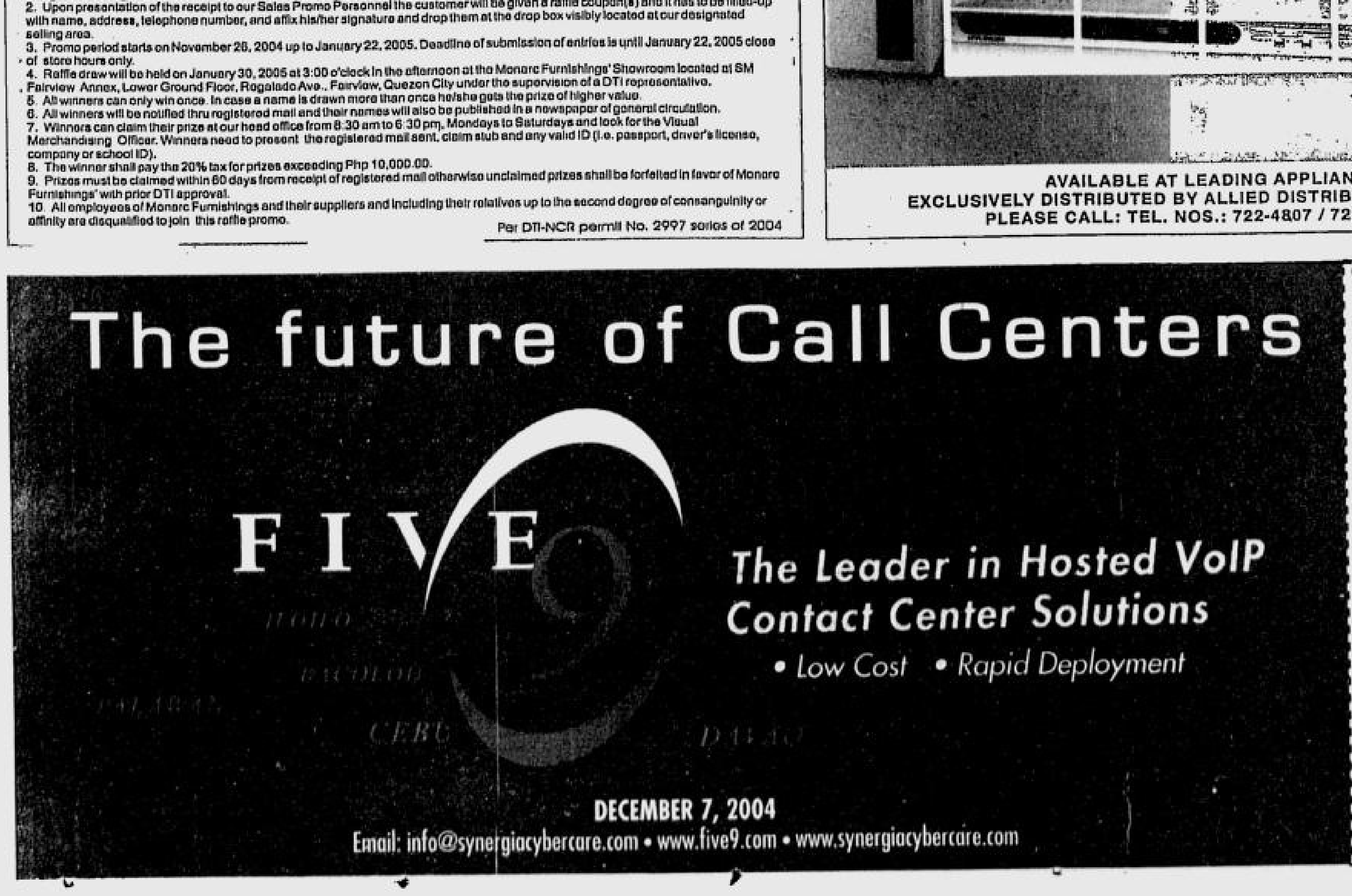
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Loans extended to SMEs reached ₱18B in Q1-Q3

LENDING to small and medium-sized enterprises reached a total of P18.6 billion in the first nine months, the government-run Small Business Guarantee and Finance Corp. yesterday reported.

Benel P. Lagua, SB Corp. president, said that the loans benefited at least 40,000 SMEs under the SME Unified Lending Opportunities for National Growth program or Sulong.

The Sulong program is the financing component of the National SME Development Plan, where six government financing institutions are taking part: SB Corp., Landbank of the Philippines, Development Bank of the Philippines, National Livelihood and Support Fund, Philippine Export-Import Bank and Quedan Rural Credit and Guarantee Corp.

Lagua said that of the loans extended from January to September, SB Corp. released P2.3 billion; LBP P8.6 billion; DBP P6.7 billion; NLSF P290 million, PhilExim P359.5 million and QuedanCorp. P376.2 million.

He said the total amount represented 78 percent of the P24-billion loan target to be released for 2004.

Lagua explained that under the Sulong program, participating GFIs have standardized their lending guidelines and interest rates to give SMEs easier access to credit. The GFIs have also relaxed their accreditation procedures to invite more rural banks and micro-finance institutions to act as conduits for the Sulong program.

Since the Sulong program was launched in 2002, loans that were released have reached a total of P71.5 billion. *Ronnel W. Domingo*

CAIRO MEET PROJECTION

Opec unlikely to cut back production

BODY SHOP REACHES OUT

Dame Anita Roddick (in white shirt, second row), founder of The Body Shop, joins the cheering children who now stand a chance at a decent education. The Body Shop recently donated a "mobile school" for the benefit of out-of-school children.

EUGENE A. ARANETA

By Abigail L. Ho

THE ORGANIZATION of Petroleum Exporting Countries is unlikely to agree to an output cut at a meeting in Cairo next week, the group's acting secretary general said Thursday.

"Cutting the production has a little chance," Opec acting secretary general Maizar Rahman yesterday said during a meeting with members of the Makati Business Club.

He said the most the group could do is "stay at the (current) quota."

Opec members are scheduled to meet in Cairo on Dec. 10 to reassess their supply commitments, as the group anticipates a decline in demand next year because of an anticipated weakening of the global economy.

"We'll observe and evaluate the market," Rahman said. "We want to have stable prices and secure supply. We'll have to observe next year's demand."

But he also said that the world "is now well supplied.

"We're even in excess (of what we need)," Rahman said.

An oversupply in the market would be bad for the oil producers, he added.

Rahman said he expects Opec's production to average 28 million barrels a day next year.

Rahman yesterday said that oil demand in 2005 would likely soften, particularly as China planned to cool down its overheating economy.

The economic growth projection for next year was also slower at 4 percent from this year's 4.9 percent. Oil demand is usually proportional with economic growth.

The huge demand, plus many non-fundamental factors like speculations and geopolitics, led to a sudden surge in world oil prices this year.

To cushion the adverse effects of spiraling oil costs on the global economy as well as to place a certain psychological safeguard against over-speculation, the Opec decided to raise its production quota three times during the year.

From 23.5 million barrels per day, the output ceiling was jacked up to 25.5 million barrels per day on July 1, to 26 million barrels per day on Aug. 1 and to 27 million barrels per day on Nov. 1.

However, even while Opec member-countries were already producing at full capacity, Rahman said world oil prices remained steep due to non-fundamental factors. *With a report from AP*

PLDT to pay ₱31B in taxes, says top exec

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE PHILIPPINE Long Distance Telephone Co. yesterday said it was not opposed to new taxes and was open to paying more to help the government raise an additional P10 billion in revenue, according to PLDT chair Manuel V. Pangilinan.

Globe Telecom Inc. senior vice president Rodolfo Salalima said the P10 billion in additional taxes the Arroyo administration wanted to generate from the sector could be achieved even under the existing tax regime.

Salalima also warned legislators not to prohibit telecom firms from passing on the impact of any new taxation to consumers. He said any such move would be unconstitutional.

"We are not opposed to new taxes," said Pangilinan in an interview. "We just want any new tax to be better defined and one that would efficiently distribute the burden."

The telecom executive said his company was willing to dialogue with the government on how best to resolve the issue.

He said PLDT and its subsidiaries were expecting to shell out more than P31 billion in taxes this year and the next.

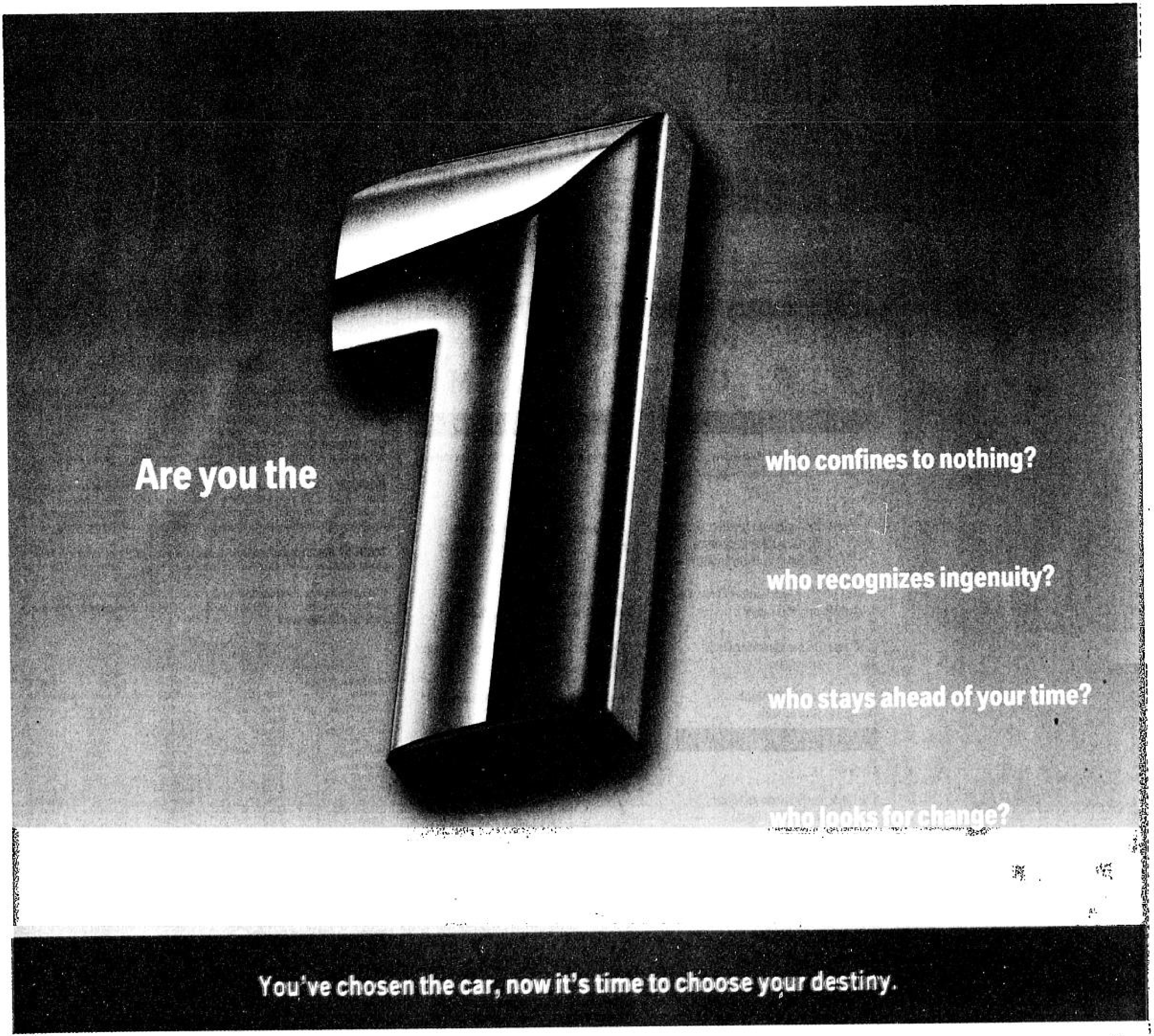
The increasing tax payments of the PLDT Group should cover a substantial portion of the P10 billion in additional revenue that the Arroyo administration wanted to generate from the telecom sector, Pangilinan noted.

"The PLDT Group alone would increase its tax payment next year by about P4 billion," said the PLDT chair. "I am sure Globe also has incremental tax payments. The PLDT Group is willing to discuss with government how best to raise whatever is the remaining amount."

Pangilinan said the most equitable solution to address the deficit problem would be to increase the value added tax rate. A franchise tax or any other charge to be slapped on gross earnings would hit even the phone companies that were losing.

Salalima said that apart from PLDT and Globe, the rest of the members of the telecom industry had been in the red.

"Increasing the VAT would make sure that the entire food chain is taxed. It would force us, our suppliers and the rest of the chain to declare the correct income. These guys make money also, so they should be taxed," said the PLDT chair.



Are you the
1
who confines to nothing?
who recognizes ingenuity?
who stays ahead of your time?
who looks for change?
You've chosen the car, now it's time to choose your destiny.

Northeast invests in call center

By Clarissa S. Batino

SHAREHOLDERS of Northeast Development and Acquisitions Corp. have formed Synergia Cybercare Inc., a new company that will invest in a small call center using an Internet-based technology.

Northeast Development is the majority owner of Hopewell Crown Infrastructure Inc., the group undertaking the P10-billion upgrade of the South Luzon Expressway.

"NDAC itself is not the owner but the individual shareholders who also happened to be with the company," said Joel Bañares, chair of Northeast Development and of the call center firm.

Synergia Cybercare would start with only about a dozen seats.

Its operating costs would amount to just a fraction of the usual expense due to its tie up with American firm Five9 Inc., officials said.

Tim Keefe, president and chief executive officer, of Synergia Cybercare said the company was the Philippine licensee for Five9, a US-based provider of hosted contact center solutions.

Keefe said that only 10 percent of existing call centers worldwide use the web-based technology.

According to analysts, the demand for call centers would reach $50 billion by the end of 2006.

Keefe said the partnership of Synergia Cybercare and Five9 would allow them to provide low cost service to customers.

"We see the Philippines a global center for providing customer care solutions. By providing the Five9 technology to the Philippines, Synergia will encourage the growth of locally-owned and operated contact centers," he said in a statement.

ALL PAWNBROKERS

Your ATTENTION PLS.!

A CALL FOR SUPPORT TO THE PAWNBROKERS-BIR ACTION PROGRAM

After months of consultations, the Chamber of Pawnbrokers of the Philippines and the Bureau of Internal Revenue have come to an Agreement & Framework for working together for the country's good. The framework is contained in the three (3) recent issuances of the Department of Finance and the BIR.

Revenue Regulations No. 10-2004, provides for the shift of the pawnshop sector from VAT to Gross Receipts Tax, and recognizes the role of pawnshops as a non-bank financial institution under the supervision of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

Revenue Memorandum Circular (RMC) No. 73-2004 details the policies for the settlement of outstanding tax liabilities of pawnshops for the years 1996 to 2002 under Section 204 of the Tax Code. The Circular also sets the basis for pawnshops' tax payments for January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2004, and for January 1, 2005 onward.

RMC No. 37-2004 establishes the procedures for the complete settlement of pawnshops' outstanding value-added tax liabilities prior to 2003, upon the payment of at least 25% of the basic tax due.

The issuances finally resolved the decades old controversies in the taxation of the pawnbrokering industry and represents a firm basis for moving forward to progress and development. The Chamber and BIR Management agreed to regularly meet to immediately resolve other current and future issues.

In appreciation of the BIR's active support to the industry, the Chamber calls upon all pawnshops across the country to support the implementation of these issuances at the earliest possible time.

Discussions of the issuances will be one of the highlights of the National Congress of Pawnbrokers on Sunday, 5 December 2004, at the Quezon City Sports Club, where key BIR officials will be on hand to respond to queries and clarifications.

Detailed information on the issuances, as well as other relevant tax information, is available at the BIR website (www.bir.gov.ph), or at any BIR District Office.

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Indophil to revive RP mine

MELBOURNE—Australian minerals explorer Indophil Resources Ltd. said the Philippines' Supreme Court decision this week could pave the way for production to start up at its Tampakan copper and gold project by later this decade.

Indophil managing director Tony Robbins said the mining project, estimated to cost $350 million to $500 million, could start production by around 2009, subject to a feasibility study now being completed.

"We would probably be looking at about 200,000 tons of copper concentrates in the early stages," he told a briefing following the supreme court decision.

The Philippines' Supreme Court on Wednesday reversed a decision in January that had voided the form of mining title held for Tampakan.

Indophil currently owns 95 percent of the project, with Alsons Corp. holding 5 percent.

Swiss-based Xstrata Plc., which has bid A$7.4 billion ($5.8 billion) for Australian copper and nickel producer WMC Resources Ltd., has an option to acquire a 62.5 percent stake in the project, reducing Indophil's stake to 32.5 percent. *Reuters*

Celebrating 400 Years of Missionary Presence in the Philippines
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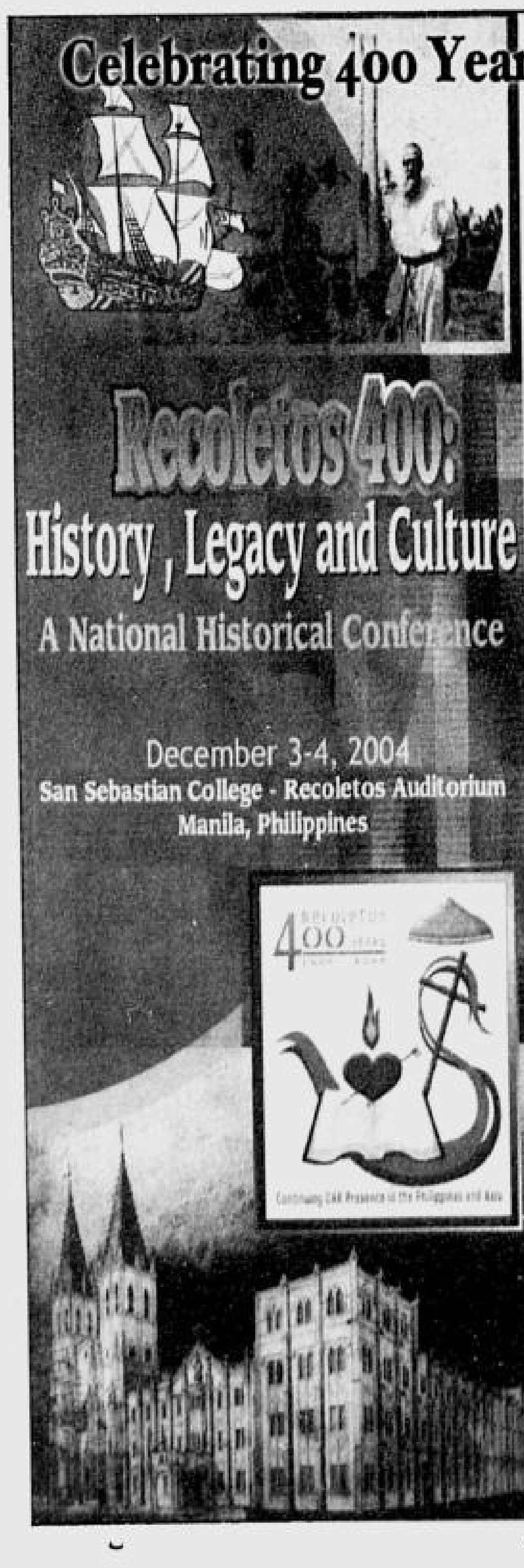

Recoletos 400:
History, Legacy and Culture
A National Historical Conference
December 3-4, 2004
San Sebastian College - Recoletos Auditorium
Manila, Philippines

PROGRAM

December 3, 2004 (Friday)

"Augustinian Recollect History and Evangelization of the Philippines"

Morning

1 Topic: The Augustinian Recollect Missions: Arrival in the Philippines and Spread of its Missionary Activities

Speaker: Rev. Fr. Angel Martinez Cuesta, OAR
Reactor: Mr. Ambeth Ocampo

2 Topic: The Augustinian Recollects in Mindanao

Speaker: Rev. Fr. Joesilo Amalla
Reactor: Mr. Rene Salvania

Open Forum

Afternoon

3 Topic: The First Indio Recollects and Recollect Beatas

Speaker: Dr. Luciano P.R. Santiago
Reactor: Rev. Fr. Rolando de la Rosa, OP

4 Topic: Jurisdictional Conflicts between the Recollects and Jesuits (in Mindanao)

Speaker: Rev. Fr. José Arcilla, SJ
Reactor: Prof. Emmanuel Luis A. Romanillos

Open Forum

December 4, 2004 (Saturday)

"Legacy and Contribution to the Filipino Nation"

Morning

5 Topic: The Augustinian Recollects from a Layperson's View Point

Speaker: Mrs. Bambi Harper
Reactor: Dra. Carmen Eturma, Ph.D.

6 Topic: Augustinian Recollects' Contribution to Arts and Culture

Speaker: Prof. Emmanuel Luis A. Romanillos
Reactor: Mrs. Alexandra Iñigo Chua

Open Forum

Afternoon

7 Topic: The Augustinian Recollect Sisters: The Spirituality of the Beaterio de San Sebastian

Speaker: Rev. Fr. Emilio Edgardo Quilatan, OAR
Reactor: An Augustinian Recollect Sister

8 Topic: Augustinian Recollects' Contribution to Engineering and Architecture

Speaker: Prof. Regalado Trota José
Reactor: Rev. Fr. Pedro Galende, OSA

Open Forum

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of December 2, 2004)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	33,000
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	23.75	23.75	23.75	23.75	656,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	50	50.5	48.5	48.5	564,900
China Banking Corp.	600	600	600	600	510
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	51	51	51	51	29,800
Export and Ind. Bank Inc.	0.48	0.5	0.48	0.5	5,330,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	28.5	29	28	28	119,900
Philippine National Bank	22.75	22.75	22.75	22.75	500
Phil. Savings Bank	28.5	28.5	28.5	28.5	10,000
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	13.25	13.25	13	13	13,000
Security Bank Corp.	27.5	27.5	27	27.5	283,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	23	23	22.75	22.75	48,500
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Sun Life Financial Inc.	1800	1815	1800	1815	1,420
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	19	19	19	19	35,400
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	1.86	1.92	1.84	1.86	15,148,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	990	990	975	980	17,200
Ipeople Inc.	2.9	2.9	2.85	2.85	188,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.034	0.034	0.033	0.034	800,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	2.36	2.36	2.36	2.36	1,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	2.75	2.75	2.55	2.55	4,985,000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co.	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	30,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1350	1360	1345	1345	109,880
Ivantage Corp.	0.8	0.82	0.79	0.8	7,840,000
Philweb Corp.	0.012	0.012	0.011	0.012	80,200,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	15.75	16.5	15.75	16.5	160,800
Manila Electric Co. B	25	26.5	25	26	3,434,500
Petron Corp.	3.25	3.3	3.2	3.2	1,964,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Aboitiz Trans. Sys. Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	30,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.7	517,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	1.16	1.22	1.16	1.22	1,059,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.36	0.36	0.35	0.35	1,280,000
Supercity Rlty Dev. Corp.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	4,000
Union Cement Corp.	2.16	2.16	2.12	2.12	5,110,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	513,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	32	32	31.5	31.5	86,700
Jollibee Foods Corp.	29	29.5	29	29.5	136,800
RFM Corp.	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	40,000
Swift Food Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	30,000
San Miguel Corp. A	57	57	56.5	57	9,700
San Miguel Corp. B	73.5	74.5	73.5	74.5	1,411,300
Vitarich Corp.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	1,140,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.0042	0.0042	0.004	0.004	30,000,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg B	0.0044	0.0044	0.0044	0.0044	5,000,000
Ayala Corp.	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.5	1,123,000
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	40,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	3.2	3.35	3.2	3.35	4,943,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.022	3,000,000
A. Soriano Corp.	1.62	1.62	1.6	1.62	554,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0075	0.008	0.0075	0.008	250,000,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	16	16	15.75	15.75	2,100
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.7	0.74	0.69	0.73	55,440,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.13	0.15	0.13	0.15	1,860,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.26	0.26	0.25	0.25	1,260,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	3.9	3.95	3.9	3.9	2,905,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.03	0.03	0.029	0.029	1,300,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1	1	1	1	6,600,000
Fil-Hispano Holdings Corp.	4.9	4.95	4.9	4.95	1,125,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	28	30.5	28	30.5	4,016,700
Ionics Inc.	1.46	1.46	1.42	1.42	691,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	3.75	3.75	3.4	3.4	2,570,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.44	1.56	1.44	1.5	1,440,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. B	0.015	0.015	0.014	0.014	3,000,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	305,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.41	0.43	0.41	0.43	13,140,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	30,000
South China Resources Inc.	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	80,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.135	0.135	0.13	0.13	2,370,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	6,850,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	740,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.62	1.62	1.62	1.62	8,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	0.6	0.65	0.6	0.65	5,830,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.97	0.97	0.9	0.94	790,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.63	0.63	0.63	0.63	140,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	300,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	19	19	18.75	18.75	216,700
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	3,300
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	2,200
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	3,200
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	2,800
PLDT (10% Pref) Series X	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,700
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Y	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,400
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	2,100
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	2,300
PLDT 10% Pref Series Bb	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,800
PLDT 10% Pref Series Cc	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,100
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	7.1	7.1	7	7.1	2,116,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	900,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	6,700,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	3,200,000
Elb Realty Developers Inc.	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	40,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	2,220,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1,250,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	300,000
Philippine Estates Corp.	0.0875	0.0875	0.0875	0.0875	14,700,000
Phil Realty And Holdings	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	650,000
SM Development Corp.	1.4	1.52	1.4	1.5	1,333,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	6,330,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	230,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc. B	0.3	0.33	0.3	0.33	430,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.014	0.015	0.013	0.014	1,841,100,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	4	4.05	3.75	3.95	2,191,000
Benguet Corp. A	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.6	80,000
Benguet Corp. B	4	4	4	4	1,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	1.7	1.9	1.7	1.9	188,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.25	0.27	0.245	0.27	93,390,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.31	0.39	0.31	0.36	155,040,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.02	0.021	0.02	0.021	2,334,800,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.028	0.03	0.026	0.028	2,233,200,000
Omico Corp.	0.005	0.006	0.0048	0.0056	1,774,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.44	0.56	0.44	0.56	22,520,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.55	0.72	0.55	0.72	38,640,000
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.16	0.175	0.15	0.16	4,310,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.01	0.011	0.01	0.011	5,000,000
Interport Res.	0.0036	0.0036	0.0036	0.0036	6,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	62,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B.	0.0046	0.005	0.0046	0.005	49,000,000
Pacifica	0.0095	0.0095	0.0095	0.0095	2,000,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	2.6	2.6	2.55	2.6	129,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.225	0.235	0.22	0.23	1,830,000

DISCLOSURES

REPUBLIC Cement Corp. Issued a convertible loan note to Lafarge Holdings Philippines Inc. in exchange for all issued and outstanding capital stock of Continental Operating Corp.

* * *

SAN Miguel Corp. officer Francis Jardeleza subscribed to 20,000 "B" shares of the company through the Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

* * *

HOUSE of Investments Inc. confirmed the appointment of Alexander Anthony Galang as vice president of the company. Also, a cash dividend amounting to over P17.9 million was declared in favor of holders of cumulative, convertible, participating, redeemable preferred shares.

* * *

TANDUAY Holdings Inc. declared a cash dividend of P1 per share in favor of stockholders of record as of Nov. 30 and will be payable not later than Dec. 15.

* * *

PCI Leasing and Finance Inc. bought 166,000 of its own shares at P1.34 each and another 135,900 shares at P1.36 each. ***Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research***

CURRENCIES

December 2, 2004 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.746895	1.000000	56.1400
Japan	Yen	0.007302	0.009750	0.5474
United Kingdom	Pound	1.449637	1.935700	108.6702
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.096330	0.128629	7.2212
Switzerland	Franc	0.657792	0.878349	49.3105
Canada	Dollar	0.633206	0.845523	47.4677
Singapore	Dollar	0.459050	0.612970	34.4121
Australia	Dollar	0.580629	0.775314	43.5261
Bahrain	Dinar*	1.986566	2.652661	148.9204
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.199700	0.266660	14.9703
Brunei	Dollar	0.457648	0.611098	34.3070
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000083	0.000111	0.0062
Thailand	Baht	0.019065	0.025458	1.4292
UAE	Dirham	0.203925	0.272301	15.2870
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.335300	74.9637
Argentina	Peso	0.254510	0.339847	19.0790
Brazil	Real	0.276958	0.369822	20.7618
Denmark	Kroner	0.134609	0.179743	10.0908
India	Rupee	0.016905	0.022573	1.2672
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.197104	0.263193	14.7757
Mexico	New Peso	0.067274	0.089831	5.0431
New Zealand	Dollar	0.536420	0.716281	40.2120
Norway	Kroner	0.122375	0.163407	9.1737
Pakistan	Rupee	0.012661	0.016906	0.9491
South Africa	Rand	0.130220	0.173883	9.7618
Korea	Won	0.000717	0.000957	0.0537
Sweden	Kroner	0.111599	0.149018	8.3659
Syria	Pound	0.014452	0.019298	1.0834
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.023272	0.031075	1.7446
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000391	0.000522	0.0293

Trade pact seen to open doors for RP professionals

DAVAO CITY—For Filipino architects who often end up working as draftsmen in foreign lands, the country's upcoming bilateral agreement with Japan offers a ray of hope and opportunity.

The agreement will pave the way for Filipino professionals to work in Japan.

"Even if you're already a licensed architect here, without such bilateral agreement, you could never practice your profession in foreign lands," said Davao-based architect Herculano Lagunay, former district director of the Mt. Apo chapter of the United Architects of the Philippines (UAP).

"That's why most Filipino architects who decide to work abroad often end up working as draftsmen in the US and the Middle East."

Although such an agreement might trigger an exodus of Filipino architects to Japan, he said this would not be a cause for worry because as overseas contract workers (OCWs), they would eventually come back, bringing along their wealth of experiences.

"Just think of the expertise that they will eventually bring (home) with them when they return, on top of the remittances they'll be sending their families while they're working abroad," said Lagunay, who himself worked as a draftsman abroad. "Without such bilateral agreement, you leave this country as an architect but you end up as draftsman in a foreign country."

In 1992, Lagunay was hired as architect by an American company in the Mariana Islands, but ended up a draftsman for his American employer.

"I was a Filipino working for American bosses in an American company, so I ended up as a draftsman, for a while," he recalled. "It took them about a month to realize that I can do something more and that was how they started respecting me as an architect."

The country is keen on signing the agreement, called the Japan Philippine Economic Partnership Agreement (JPEPA). The pact will allow the opening of the market for Filipino professionals, including nurses and engineers, in exchange for the opening of the country's market for auto imports from Japan.

Lagunay said he foresees more architects, like himself, leaving the country if such an agreement will push through because they will be earning more in Japan than what they are earning here.

"Definitely, you earn more and the exposure that you learn there, is irreplaceable," he said.

A similar agreement is also being worked out among the other members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Lagunay said the pact presented a chance for Filipino architects to prove their worth to the world.

"We Filipinos are a hardworking lot and we don't normally condone anything that will disrupt our work," he said. *Germelina A. Lacorte, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Republic Cement in share-swap deal with Lafarge

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

LISTED firm Republic Cement Corp. has issued P1.35 billion in convertible loan notes to Lafarge Holdings Philippines Inc. (LHPI) in exchange for the latter's shares in cement subsidiary Continental Operating Corp.

LHPI is a local subsidiary of French conglomerate Lafarge S.A.

With the buy-in of Continental, Republic Cement will become the largest cement group in the country with a total capacity of over 8.5 million metric tons of clinker a year.

Republic Cement yesterday said in a disclosure that the loan has an interest rate of 8 percent per annum payable in arrears on the call date.

The noteholder will have the option to convert notes into common shares of Republic Cement at any time after the fifth anniversary date.

The noteholder also has the right to fix the date for the settlement and discharge of the convertible loan note at anytime after the fifth anniversary date of the note.

The settlement and discharge of the convertible loan notes however shall be mandatory on its 10th anniversary date.

The board of Republic Cement earlier announced its acquisition of Continental. LCPI recently merged with LHPI, with the latter as the surviving entity after assuming LCPI's assets and liabilities.

Republic Cement's six cement subsidiaries are Fortune Cement Corp., Premier Cement Corp., Iligan Cement Corp., Mindanao Portland Cement, FR Cement and Lloyds Richfield Industrial Corp.

Continental, on the other hand, has plants in Bulacan and Rizal.

To fund the acquisition, Republic Cement sought regulatory approval for the issuance of a convertible loan in exchange for the shares of LCPI in Continental. LCPI holds 239.04 million shares or 4.13 percent of Continental.

In 2001, Lafarge acquired Blue Circle U.K. and all its assets including one of Republic Cement's stockholders, Blue Circle Philippines Inc. The company then became part of the Lafarge Group in the Philippines.

MWCI plans to issue shares overseas

By Christine A. Gaylican

THE AYALA Group's Manila Water Co. Inc. (MWCI) is laying the groundwork for an initial public offering that will include the issuance of shares abroad.

Standing offers from foreign underwriters have led Manila Water officials to consider issuing shares overseas, according to Sherisa Nuesa, MWCI chief finance officer.

"Our intent to go public in the first quarter of 2005 has generated an interest in the international market and we might issue some of the shares there," Nuesa told the INQUIRER.

Manila Water expects to raise $75 million from the initial public offering, but the figure could vary depending on market conditions. Manila's east concessionaire has tapped ING and BPI Capital as its financial advisors.

Proceeds from the offering will largely go to the expansion of water service coverage, non-revenue water reduction program and the development of new water resources.

The IPO is provided for in Manila Water's 25-year concession agreement with the Metropolitan Water Sewerage System (MWSS). The MWCI supplies water to Metro Manila's east zone composed of the cities of Marikina, Pasig, Mandaluyong and Makati, along with San Juan, Taguig and Pateros. It also supplies water to parts of Quezon City and Manila.

Since it started operations, Manila Water has been posting aggressive growth rates. Last year, the company posted a net income of P1.2 billion or more than doubled the figure reported in 2002.

For the past six months of the year, Manila Water posted a net profit of P650 million as revenues rose 12 percent year-on-year to P2 billion. MWCI's aggressive capital expenditure program has resulted in significant service expansion adding 1 million people to areas being served.

East zone concessionaire MWCI has curbed its non-revenue water (NRW) levels to 44.6 percent as of October. That translates to higher water volumes delivered to customers.

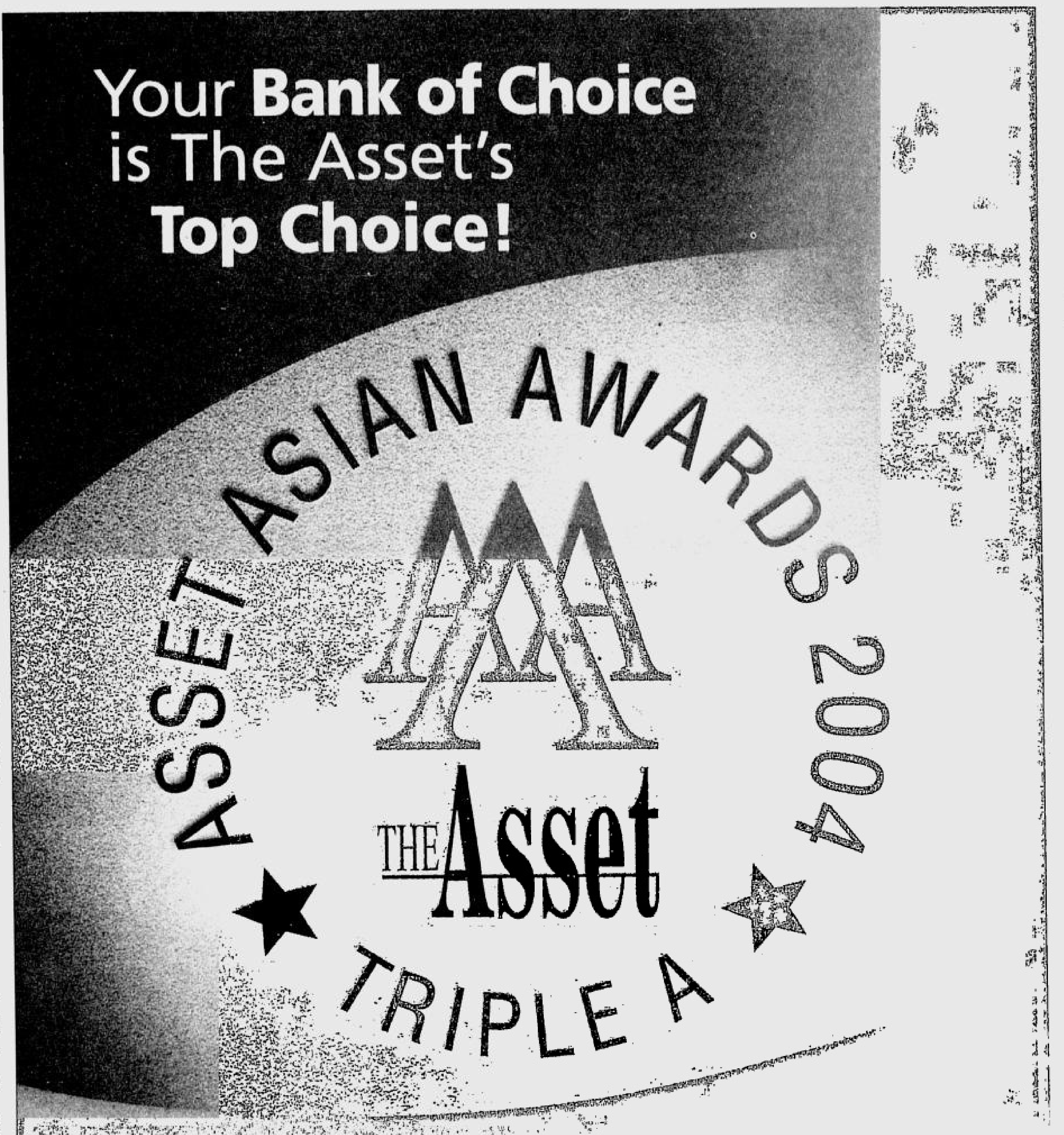
Last month, MWCI increased its water delivery to 822 million liters per day, Nuesa said.

"We have breached the 45-percent target for the entire year, and lower NRWs translate to more water delivered and billed to customers," Nuesa said.

She explained that NRWs, brought on by busted pipes and illegal connections, were lowered from a high of 53 percent as of January with the continuous installation of new pipes.

"MWCI has some P3 billion for its capital expenditure program and this has been used for almost 300 cut-and-plug projects in the entire metropolis," she said.

According to Nuesa, efforts to curb NRW, as well as wastewater and sewerage expansion, eat up a third of its capital investments, which are financed through internally generated funds and loans.



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PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE

INVITATION TO BID

The Privatization and Management Office (PMO) is offering for public bidding, on an **"as-is-where-is"** basis, the following asset formerly belonging to Carruf Development Corporation, as follows:

Description	Indicative Price
Unit 18-N, with an area of 77.85 sq.m. located at Legaspi Towers 300	P2,335,500

Sealed bids will be received on 16 December 2004, 3:00 p.m. at the PMO Conference Room, 6th Floor, Privatization and Management Office, 104 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City.

Interested parties are advised to deal directly with the PMO Marketing Department. Authenticated bidding documents, together with the Asset Specific Catalogue, may be secured from PMO for a nominal fee of P500.00.

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Maureen B. Vallente at telephone numbers 817-8762 or 892-2145.

(PDI - Dec. 2, 3 & 4, 2004)

Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation
2228 Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City
Tel. No. 841-4000-30; Fax No. 841-4909; Website: www.pdic.gov.ph;

SPECIAL DISPOSITION COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO BID

The Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC) invites interested bidders to purchase on cash basis only by way of SEALED BIDS the following property:

DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	MINIMUM BID
Seven (7) contiguous parcels of lot, with improvements thereon and a total net usable area of 2,011.24 sq. mtrs.	Taft Avenue Extension, Barangay 59, Sta. Clara District, Pasay City, adjacent to Iglesia Filipina Independiente and the LRT Libertad Station. The Property was the former site of Banco Primero Development Bank.	PHP 66 MM

Complete description/specifications of the property, Conditions of Bid, bid forms and other related documents, shall be made available for a fee of P 500.00 to interested bidders from December 6 to 15, 2004 at the Office of the Secretariat, Special Disposition Committee, at the Ground Floor, PDIC Building, 2228 Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City. For further details, please contact Engr. Ernesto R. Torres, Jr. at telephone number 841-4000 local 4902.

Sealed bids shall be dropped at the Bid Box located at the Secretariat Extension Office, 8th floor, PDIC Ayala Extension Office, Ayala Avenue corner Herrera Street, Makati City not later than 2:00 P.M. on December 16, 2004. The bids shall be labelled "Special Disposition Committee, PDIC Makati City".

Bidder's deposit equivalent to 10% of the bid price in Certified Manager's/Cashier's Check payable to PDIC must be enclosed with the sealed bid.

PDIC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or to accept any bid, or to award the contract to the bidder whose bid, as evaluated, is the most beneficial to PDIC.

PDIC also assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses that they may incur in the preparation of the bid nor does it guarantee that any award will be made.

(PDI - Dec. 3, 4 & 6, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

RVC Standard Pacific Manpower Inc., a newly organized corp., with office address at Room 403, Garcia Building, 882 Quirino Hi-way Novaliches, Quezon City, is an applicant for POEA License with the following **board of directors:**

Rodolfo Caberto – Pres & Chair of the Board
Virginia M. Caberto – Treas. & Board Member
Girlie R. Contreras – VP-Gen. Mgr. & Board Member
Carlo M. Caberto – Corp. Sec. & Board Member
Rodolfo Silverio – Board Member

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given to all creditors of **POLARIS TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.**, with business address at West Tower, Philippine Stock Exchange Center, Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City to present their claims, no later than 31 December 2004 to **MR. AGUSTIN PEREZ** or **RIZA MARI CALDITO** of **KPMG LAYA MANANGHAYA & CO.**, with Tel. Nos. 885-7000 or 893-8507 and Fax Nos. 894-1985 or 816-6595, ATTN: AGUSTIN PEREZ.

Any claims against Polaris Telecommunications, Inc., which are not presented within the prescribed time, shall be deemed to be waived.

(PDI – Nov. 29 & Dec. 1 & 3, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
BINANGONAN, RIZAL
BRANCH 70

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION
FOR CORPORATE REHABILITATION
OF FILIPINAS SHUTTERS, INC.

SPEC. PROC. NO. 04-038

FILIPINAS SHUTTERS, INC.,
Petitioners.
x---------------------------x

STAY ORDER

Before this Court is a verified petition for rehabilitation filed by the above-named petitioner.

Briefly, the petitioner contends that if it will be given a breathing space and a reasonable period of time within which to pursue a rehabilitation plan, it will be able to generate sufficient cash flow to pay off its debts (Php82,552,200.00) and attain profitability. The rehabilitation plan calls for the retirement of about ninety percent of its labor force to bring down overhead costs; outsourcing of most of its production work; a ten (10) year repayment period with an 18-month moratorium on interests on loans and a 24-month moratorium on loan principal payments and other obligations. Consequently, it prays for the immediate appointment of a rehabilitation receiver and the issuance of a Stay Order pending proceedings before this Court.

A careful examination of the Petition shows that in conforms substantially with Section 2, Rule 4 of the Interim Rules of Procedure on Corporate Rehabilitation (A.M. No. 00-8-10-SC). This Court therefore finds the Petition to be sufficient in form and substance.

IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, this court hereby issues a Stay Order, in accordance with Section 6, Rule 4 of the afore-cited Interim Rules, as follows:

1) Appointing Mr. Jose N. Rombion, a certified public accountant by profession, as rehabilitation receiver, who shall be considered as an officer of the court as provided for in Section 14, Rule 4 of the aforecited Interim Rules. The rehabilitation receiver must post a bond of Php500,000.00 before entering upon his powers, duties and functions and must take an oath, as provided under Section 15, Rule 4 of the afore-cited Interim rules. The petitioner is directed to serve immediately a copy of this Stay Order upon the rehabilitation receiver, Mr. Jose N. Rombion, who shall manifest his acceptance or non-acceptance of his appointment not later than ten (10) days from receipt hereof;

2) Staying enforcement of all claims whether for money or otherwise and whether such enforcement is by court action or otherwise, against the petitioner, and its guarantors and sureties not solidarily liable with the petitioner including the staying of proceedings of collection cases filed against petitioner, and the staying of the enforcement/implementation of applications for extra-judicial foreclosure sale/s and actual foreclosure sale/s if any, against the real and personal properties of petitioner;

3) Prohibiting the petitioner from selling, encumbering, transferring, or disposing in any manner of its properties except in the ordinary course of business;

4) Prohibiting the petitioner from making any payment of its liabilities outstanding as of the date of the filing of the petition;

5) Prohibiting the suppliers of the petitioner from withholding supply of goods and services in the ordinary course of business for as long the petitioner makes payments for the services and goods supplied after the issuance of this Stay Order;

6) Directing the petitioner to pay in full all administrative expenses incurred after the issuance of this Stay Order.

The initial hearing on the Petition is set on January 31, 2005 at 8:30 in the morning at the session room Branch 70 of this Court located at the Ground Floor of the Hall of Justice situated at the University of Rizal System, Calumpang, Binangonan, Rizal. All creditors and all interested parties including the Securities and Exchange Commission are directed to file with this Court and serve upon the petitioner a verified comment or opposition to the Petition, with supporting affidavits and documents, not later than ten (10) days before the date of the initial hearing as set forth above, and they are put on notice that their failure to do so will bar them from participating in the proceedings before this Court. All creditors and all interested parties are further directed to secure from this Court, copies of the Petition and its annexes within such time as to enable them to file their verified comment on or opposition to the Petition and to prepare them for the initial hearing of the petition.

The petitioner is furthermore directed by this Court to publish a copy of this Order in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines, once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks, with the last publication effected at least three (3) weeks prior to the date of initial hearing as set forth above, for wider dissemination to all interested persons, at the expense of the petitioner.

The Process Server of this Court is ordered to serve immediately copies of this Stay Order upon: 1) Mr. Maximo Y. Chua, President, Filipinas Shutters, Inc., Km. 23, Ortigas Avenue Ext., Cainta, Rizal; 2) Atty. Rodrigo L. Yuson, Unit 506 Ark Condominium, 92 Sierra Madre St., Mandaluyong City; 3) Mr. Jose N. Rombion, Unit C, 3rd Flr. Tempus Place II, 21 Matalino St., Diliman, Quezon City; 4) The Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, EDSA, Mandaluyong City, 5) Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company, Metrobank Plaza, Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave., Makati City, 6) Equitable PCI Bank, Robinsons – PCI Tower, ADB Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

SO ORDERED.

Binangonan, Rizal, 11 November 2004.

(Sgd.) AUGUSTO T. GUTIERREZ
Presiding Judge

(PDI–Nov. 26 & Dec. 3, 2004)

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[redacted]

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that Cad. Lot 1146-B, Csd-04-024480-D, Cad. 285, Carmona Cad. under Tax Dec. No. 04-009-02601 with area of 10,999 sq. m., located at Cabilang Baybay, Carmona, Cavite, was extrajudicially settled among Heirs of late Sps. Publeo and Josefina Manguit per Doc. No. 498, Page No. 100, Book No. II, Series of 2004 of Notary Public Virgilio B. Galeon of Biñan, Laguna. (Nov. 19, 26 & Dec. 3, 2004)

Notice is given that Cad. Lot 1146-D, Csd-04-024480-D, Cad. 285, Carmona Cad. under Tax Dec. No. 04-009-02599 with area of 10,200 sq. m., located at Cabilang Baybay, Carmona, Cavite, was extrajudicially settled among Heirs of late Lydia Manguit Bacsafra per Doc. No. 499, Page No. 100, Book No. II, Series of 2004 of Notary Public Virgilio B. Galeon of Biñan, Laguna. (Nov. 19, 26 & Dec. 3, 2004)

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ESTATE OF THE AMELIA LUNES-ELICIERTO OF GEN. TRIAS, CAVITE HAS BEEN EXTRAJUDICIALLY SETTLED AMONG THE HEIRS UNDER DOC. NO. 47; PAGE NO. 11; BOOK NO. XXIV; SERIES OF 2004 OF NOTARY PUBLIC DANILO - CARRIAGA OF QUEZON CITY ON NOV. 24, 2004
PDI-Dec. 3, 10 & 17, 2004

AUCTION SALE

MARA PAWNSHOP BR of 2230 M. Roxas St. Sta Ana Manila Auction Sale on Dec. 7, 2004, Tues.at 2:30 in the afternoon. Respectively, July 10 - Aug. 7, 2004 SONS of J. LANUZA, Auctioneer.

PUBLIC NOTICES

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of Makati City.
AUCTION SALE on Dec. 7, 2004, Tues. at 10:30, 11:00, 12.30, 1:30 and 8:30 in the morning and on the afternoon. Respectively July 10 - Aug. 7, 2004. Sons of J. Lanuza, Auctioneer

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
SEC Bldg., EDSA, Greenhills, Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila

IN THE MATTER OF THE
PRUDENTIALIFE FIXED
INCOME FUND, INC.
-Registrant-

SEC-CFD ORDER NO. 168
SERIES OF 2004

ORDER

Upon consideration of the Registration Statement and other papers and documents attached thereto filed for and on behalf of **PRUDENTIALIFE FIXED INCOME FUND, INC.** the Commission in its meeting of November 25, 2004 resolved to approve the registration of said corporation as an investment company under the Investment Company Act and its implementing Rules and Regulations and to render effective its Registration Statement covering its Two Hundred Million (200,000,000) common shares under the Securities Regulation Code.

A Certificate of Permit to Offer Securities For Sale authorizing the sale of said securities is issued with this Order.

Let this ORDER be published at the expense of the corporation once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in two-(2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines within ten (10) days from date hereof. The corporation is hereby directed to furnish the Commission with a copy of the affidavit of publication of this ORDER.

SO ORDERED.

EDSA, Greenhills, City of Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines.

25 November 2004

(Sgd.) JUSTINA F. CALLANGAN
Director

(PDI–Dec 3 & 8, 2004)

OBITUARIES

Adela Salayo-Torres

(Widow of the late Mayor Fidel V. Torres of Sampaloc, Quezon)

Has gone to her eternal rest in the peace of our Lord on December 1, 2004 at the age of 80.

Her beloved children: Agnes & Noriel Devanadera, Grace & Lito Lim, Naning & Lolet, Ebet & Anna Marie, Marian & Edong Hugo, Sonjie, Brigitte, Jun & Miles, Beth & Lorenz Suarez, Mary Jane & Benedict Valdecañas, grandchildren and great grandchildren request prayers for her everlasting joy in the company of the Angels and the Saints.

Her body lies in state at the Mortuary and Crematory at the Heritage Park, Fort Bonifacio.
Interment will be on December 5, 2004 at the Heritage Park after the 9:00am mass.

"Lord my rock, my fortress, my deliverer, my God, my rock of refuge, my shield my lowing horn, my stronghold..." Psalm 18:3

VENERANDO "BENNY" BERNARDO JOSON

of Ilog Baliwag, Quezon NE and
Mabini St., Cabanatuan City

(August 25, 1954 – November 29, 2004)

His loving wife : Noneth Hipolito Joson
Children : Kathryn Menelea – Manuel G. Chua, Jr.
Karine Camille
Kalvin Vennet
Kleana Isabelle
Grandchild : Klarine Angela
Mother : Brigida Bernardo Joson

Brothers, sisters, and brothers and sisters-in-law request the pious readers to join them in expressing thanks to the Lord for his life – a loving and faithful husband, father, brother, and son.

His cremated remains will be interred after a Holy Mass is celebrated in his memory at St. Nicholas de Tolentine Crypt, Lakewood City, Cabanatuan City at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, December 4, 2004.

**Whoever finds his life will lose it,
and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.**
Matthew 10:39

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
John 14:6

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Sra Dña Margarita Cuyugan

vda. de Ernesto von Oppen †

entregó su alma a Dios el día 1 de diciembre de 2004

Sus apenados hijos **Gretchen, Antonio, Vicky y Alejandro** ; sus hijos politicos **Danding Cojuangco y Cecile Jamora**; sus nietos **Mark y Kimi Cojuangco, Tina y Mike Barrera, Lisa y Nick Cruz, Charlie y Rio † Cojuangco, Rina Oppen, Marita y Mike Hofileña, Cindy Oppen y Ness Oppen, Trisha y Marty Syquia, Janine Santos y Nikki Revilla**, viznietos **Danielle, Paola y Eduardo Cojuangco, Teddy, Michelle, Ernesto y Monica Barrera, Patricia, Santiago y Sophia Cruz, Claudia y Jaime Cojuangco, Tara Oppen, Miggy Lopez, Marco Hofileña y Sancho Syquia**.

ruegan una oracion por su alma

El velatorio será en su residencia
2227 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City.
El funeral se celebrará el día 7 de Diciembre de 2004
a las nueve y media, Christ the King,
Green Meadows, Quezon City.

El entiero sera despues de la misa.

En lugar de flores y tarjetas de misas, envien donaciones a las hermanas Franciscanas de San Antonio, Casa de Providencia Pontevedra, Negros Occidental.

The faculty of Medicine and Surgery Class 1980 of the University of Sto. Tomas
express our deepest sympathy to the family of

PAUL ESTRADA PONCIANO, M.D.

He is survived by his wife **Josefina**; children **Paulo Jose, Randolph, Pauline, Jocelyn & Ivan**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.
His body lies in state at Christ the King Church, Greenmeadows, Quezon City.
Cremation will follow after the 9:00 a.m. Mass tomorrow, December 4, 2004.

Message of Thanks

**We, the Family,
Former & Present Employees**
of the late

CONSUELO M. VALDERRAMA

would like to thank all
who condoled with us, offered masses
and prayers, sent flowers and messages,
and comforted us during the hour
of our bereavement, may the Lord
bless you all.

ERNESTO MANAHAN CRUZ

*Peacefully joined his Creator
on November 29, 2004 at the age of 78.*

His bereaved wife **Cesia Bugayong**; children **Eileen & Fernando Florendo, Eric & Josephine, Lorna & Jose Garrido, Raul & Grace** and **Thomas & Judy Virgiline**; grandchildren **Ejane, Kristofer, Bridget, Stephanie, Michael, Matthew, Timmy** and **Joseph**, and all relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at Chapel D, La Funeraria Paz, Inc., G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Sunday, December 5, 2004,
at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City
after the 1:00 p.m. Mass.

---

*"Absent from the body is present with the Lord ...
and he will dwell in the house of the Lord."*

GOV. Ka BART L. MARASIGAN

of Oriental Mindoro

*Peacefully joined his Creator
on December 1, 2004 at the age of 67.*

He is survived by his wife **REMY**; children
**MURPHY & BORIE, VLADY & GENI,
MIRALIE & ALEX, TOMY, MARICHU**
and grandchildren.

His remains lie in state
at the Arlington Memorial Chapels,
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
and will be transferred to Calapan City
on December 4, 2004.

Interment to be announced later.

ERLINDA DE CASTRO GUTIERREZ

Born: May 19, 1934

Peacefully joined her Creator on November 30, 2004.

Her bereaved family husband **Francisco Gutierrez**; children **Irel & Mercy, Cynthia, Butch, John, Louie & Magnolia, Arlene & Misael**; grandchildren **Trisha, Sam, Maxine, Benedict, Pia, Jacob**; brother **Eddie & Cita**; sisters-in-law **Cres, Penny & Cosme**; brother-in-law **Peping (†) & Liling**; and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Loyola Memorial Chapels, Sucat, Parañaque.

Interment will be on Saturday, December 4, 2004 at the
Loyola Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque
after the 2:00 p.m. Mass

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Asia stocks up, dollar at new low

SINGAPORE—Asian shares touched multi-year highs on Thursday, in line with Wall Street, as a 7.4 percent crude oil price slump and strong US economic data swept aside export worries even as the dollar hit a new low against the euro.

US crude prices fell more than $3.5 a barrel overnight for their biggest slide in three years on a larger-than-expected increase in US fuel stocks, but they steadied above $45 a barrel in Asian trade.

European stock markets were indicated higher.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng hit a three-and-a-half-year high, and an MSCI index of non-Japan shares rose more than 1.4 percent to its highest level in nearly five years.

World stocks as measured by the MSCI added 0.43 percent to 278.16, down slightly from its highest level since mid-2001 reached earlier in the session.

Japanese government bonds rose, reversing an early slide, as strong demand at an auction of 10-year securities outweighed the damping effect of a 1.75-percent climb in Tokyo shares to 10,973.07.

The lower dollar helped push gold to a new 16-year high, and US Treasuries steadied after falls overnight.

The dollar slipped to $1.3370 against the euro, a record low, as concerns about the United States' twin deficits piled on the selling pressure and outweighed any impact from the data.

"Nobody seems to care about the economic data," said Marshall Gittler, senior currency strategist at Deutsche Bank in Tokyo. "That indicates sentiment for the dollar is seriously, seriously bearish."

The euro was at $1.3363 in late Asia trade. The yen was trading at 102.17 per dollar, just off a 4-1/2-year high of 102.15. Sterling fetched $1.9345, near a 12-year high struck late on Wednesday of $1.9359.

US light crude for January edged up 12 cents to $45.61 a barrel in Asia after sliding more than $3.50 on Wednesday.

The selling trigger was data from the US Energy Information Administration (EIA) which said distillate stocks, including heating oil and diesel, rose 2.3 million barrels in the week to Nov. 26 to 117.9 million barrels.

Analysts polled by Reuters had projected a 1.4 million barrel build.

Stocks were supported by the crude price fall. High prices this year have weighed heavily on fuel users, and on global economic prospects.

The US data that did so little for the greenback also underpinned share gains.

Asian investors moved into stock sectors that were hard hit in recent days.

"Their targets are high-tech and other exporters which have been a bit oversold," said Koichi Seki, equity manager at Chuo Securities.

In Japan, Toyota Motor bounced up 1.57 percent from Wednesday's seven-month closing low. In Korea, LG Electronics climbed 2.2 percent, and Hong Kong-listed China Southern Airlines climbed 2.4 percent among strong airlines as fuel cost worries eased.

But the crude price fall took its toll on energy stocks.

Japan's AOC Holdings shed 4.4 percent and Inpex slipped 2.3 percent, while Australia's Woodside Petroleum fell 0.94 percent and Hong Kong-listed Chinese firm CNOOC dropped 1.7 percent.

Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Japan's top smelter of nonferrous metals, including copper and gold, benefited from strong gold and the weak dollar, climbing 1.6 percent.

Singapore's Straits Times added 1.27 percent, and Taiwan's benchmark index climbed 1.2 percent.

Reuters

A SOUTH Korean employee wearing a snowman outfit to help promote Christma
already using the Christmas and New Year holiday season to promote their busin

Top US execs' outlook down a notch, but still positive on 2005 growth

WASHINGTON—Top executives at major US firms have ratcheted down their economic forecasts for the coming months, but still see respectable growth in 2005, a survey showed Wednesday.

The Business Roundtable CEO Economic Outlook Index dipped to 98.9 from 101.7 in September.

Despite the dip, it was the second-highest index level for the survey, which was started in November 2002.

The drop of 2.8 points in the index reflects a somewhat less robust employment outlook and a decline in the sales outlook since the September 2004 survey.

"America's CEOs continue to be upbeat about business conditions for early 2005," said Hank McKinnell, chairman of Business Roundtable and chairman and CEO of Pfizer Inc.

The CEOs in the survey, which represent the largest US corporations, see an average of 3.5 percent economic growth as they draw up their business plans for 2005, down slightly from an estimated 4 percent in 2004.

"CEOs are forecasting continuing solid growth with a slight easing from the robust growth of 2004," McKinnel said.

"This is most likely due to high oil prices, which increase costs to many companies and force consumers to spend more on gasoline and heating oil, and to trim other expenditures," he said.

In the survey, 85 percent of the chief executives said they expected higher sales at their firms in the next six months, with 13 percent predicting no change and only 2 percent forecasting a decline.

But only 40 percent said they planned to hire more employees, with the same percentage saying they saw stable employment.

One out of five said he expected fewer jobs.

Half said they expected to increase capital spending, and 43 percent said this would hold steady over the next six months.

For the second year in a row, CEOs reported that their top three cost pressures are health care costs (cited by 43 percent), followed by litigation costs (20 percent) and energy prices (19 percent).

Materials prices were reported as the greatest cost pressure by 11 percent of the CEOs, followed by labor costs (4 percent) and pension costs (4 percent).

AFP

S. Korea business sentiment lowest in 20 months

SEOUL—South Korean business sentiment fell to its weakest in 20 months in December, as a strong won cast a shadow over the prospects for exports and domestic demand remained weak, a top business group said on Thursday.

The Federation of Korean Industries (FKI) said in a statement its seasonally adjusted business survey index fell to 90.1 in December, the lowest since touching 81.9 in April last year and down from 96.2 in November.

The data was the latest in a series of indicators showing the economy, Asia's third largest, still faced a dual risk from a two-year slump in private consumption and a cooling in exports.

A similar survey by the central bank on Wednesday also showed the majority of firms remained pessimistic about their future business conditions. The Bank of Korea's all-industry business survey index edged down to 71 in December from 73 in November.

A reading below 100 in both surveys mean the number of companies expecting their business to worsen outpaced those expecting an improvement.

The bleak surveys came after October industrial production data and November inflation figures released this week provided the central bank with more scope to deliver a fresh cut in interest rates to keep the economy on a recovery track.

October industrial production unexpectedly dropped 0.9 percent from September after seasonal adjustments while the consumer inflation fell to a six-month low of 3.3 percent in the year through November from October's 3.8 percent.

The Bank of Korea, which cut the overnight call rate target by one percentage point to a record low of 3.25 percent since early last year, holds its monthly policy meeting next Thursday.

The head of the International Monetary Fund's Seoul office, Kenneth Kang, said at a private forum on Thursday South Korea had room to ease monetary policy and expand fiscal spending to boost the economy.

Reuters

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And now there is one: the new BMW 1 Series is full of individual personality, striking style and a very unique attitude. The BMW 1 Series is the only one in its class. The only one with groundbreaking BMW design. The only one with rear-wheel drive and trademark BMW handling. The only one with a perfect combination of functionality and versatility. As you can see, the BMW 1 Series is one of a kind – for the one who exudes individuality.

Experience the new BMW 1 Series at the BMW Pavilion, Bonifacio Global City, from December 4-9, 2004. Test drive slots available from 9:00am to 5:00pm. The first 30 buyers of the new BMW 1 Series will each get an HP IPAQ h6365 Pocket PC*.

*Valid only from December 2-31, 2004. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 5962 Series of 2004

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s sales greets children at a discount store in Seoul. Many shops are
esses in the hopes that they will boost sales at the end of the year. AFP

US economy picking up, Fed says

WASHINGTON—The US economy is gaining momentum, bolstered by home building, shipping and even the country's beleaguered manufacturing sector, the Federal Reserve said Wednesday in a newly upbeat assessment.

Evidence of a strengthening economy showed up in other reports as well.

The Commerce Department said consumer spending shot up by 0.7 percent in October, the best showing since July, as Americans' incomes, the fuel for future spending, rose by 0.6 percent.

The gain in incomes reflected the big increase of 337,000 payroll jobs in October, the best in seven months.

Meanwhile, the Institute for Supply Management reported that its main index for measuring industrial activity performed better than expected, rising to 57.8 in November from 56.8 in October.

The Federal Reserve said that reports from its 12 regions "generally paint a picture of continued economic growth" from mid-October through mid-November with improvements noted in a number of areas.

The Fed's latest "Beige Book," named for the color of its cover, will be used when policy-makers meet for their last discussion of the year on Dec. 14.

It is widely expected that the Fed will raise interest rates for a fifth straight time this year in an effort to make sure that the rebounding economy does not trigger unwanted inflation.

The reviving economy has been having an impact on inflation in such industries as energy, transportation and food, but the Fed said retailers are still having difficulty passing those increased costs on to consumers because of stiff competition.

The Fed survey showed rising demand for manufactured goods, encouraging news for a portion of the economy that has seen the loss of 2.7 million jobs over the past four years.

There was rising demand for chemicals, food and a variety of products used in the aerospace, agriculture, energy, construction, medical and defense industries, the report said.

The rebound in manufacturing was helping job markets, and some areas of the country were even experiencing labor shortages for such occupations as accounting, construction and skilled professionals in the energy industry.

As for consumer spending, analysts said the 0.7-percent jump after a strong 0.6-percent rise in September showed that consumers, who account for two-thirds of total economic activity, were getting a second wind.

"Consumers were not deterred by higher oil prices and by consumer confidence numbers that keep on going lower," said Ken Mayland, president of ClearView Economics.

The overall economy grew at a solid 3.9 percent rate in the July-September period, and based on Wednesday's reports many analysts said that growth this quarter could be even better.

Wednesday's spending report showed that consumer spending on big-ticket durable goods such as cars, rose just 0.2 percent in October after a 1.2-percent gain in September.

The Fed survey, which covered the last half of October and early November, indicated that consumer spending may have faltered a bit in November, calling activity "uneven." The Fed said that many districts found demand for premium merchandise noticeably stronger than for lower-priced lines, which the report said could indicate that higher energy prices were hurting lower-income households.

Things were looking up on the nation's farms with large yields expected for corn and soybean farmers and record cotton production forecast for Texas. *AP*

Motorola drops to third in cell phones; Nokia remains leader

CHICAGO—Five years after losing the lead in world cell phone sales to Nokia Corp., Motorola Inc. slipped to No. 3 behind Samsung Electronics Co. in third-quarter data released Wednesday by research firm Gartner Inc.

The new figures reflect a near dead-heat for the runner-up spot, with Samsung holding 13.8 percent of the global handset market to 13.4 percent for Motorola.

The full-year rankings remain up for grabs.

But Motorola's decline in market share underscores how important it is for the Schaumburg, Illinois-based company to score big in the all-important holiday selling season if it wants to regain credibility lost with consumers through years of product missteps and flawed strategy.

According to the Gartner data, runaway leader Nokia boosted its market share by more than a percentage point from the second quarter to 30.9 percent as it benefited from price cuts on its new models.

Motorola's share was down 1.3 percent from a year earlier as it focused on more expensive phones with bigger profit potential. But the Gartner report said the company's portfolio of newly introduced products "puts it in a good position to fight back for second position in the fourth quarter."

First-year CEO Ed Zander portrays Motorola as still in comeback mode, gaining in profitability if not in mobile phone market share. But he told analysts the company feels good about its chances of picking up more market share this quarter with the array of 20 new phones it shipped this quarter.

"We're a healthier, stronger, more profitable company" than a year ago, Zander said at a conference in Scottsdale, Arizona. And, without giving numbers, he hinted at early success for the company's new $500 (376 euro) Razr phone: "We've got the hottest product, I think, on the planet right now in the handset business."

Wall Street also appears optimistic about Motorola's prospects, particularly since the company appears to have avoided a repeat of last year's holiday mix-up when it failed to get some key camera phones to shelves by Christmas. Shares rose 49 cents, or 2.5 percent, to close at $19.75 on the New York Stock Exchange and have gained more than 20 percent since early November.

"Even if they're No. 3 but they have very solid, profitable growth, that would be fine with us," said Kenneth Leon, an analyst for Standard and Poor's. "The management is much more focused on profitable growth than seeking sales just for market share."

Leon anticipates Motorola picking up market share from Samsung with increased sales over the holidays.

Analyst Kevin Dede also sees signs the company is about to turn the tide somewhat.

"The trend's been against Motorola for a long time, and the competition's super-tough," said Dede, of Merriman Curhan Ford & Co. "But I think they've got their act together for developing functional product that's easier to use ... With consumer electronics, part of it is buzz. And I think Motorola's starting to get the buzz back." *AP*

NOKIA, the world's largest mobile phone maker, announced on Wednesday that it was considering building a handset factory in India. AFP

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HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND

8th Floor Pacific Center Bldg., San Miguel Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

INVITATION TO BID

The Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF) Bidding Committee shall conduct a public bidding for the sale of the following acquired residential properties on December 23, THURSDAY, 2:00 PM at 8th FLR., Pacific Center Bldg, San Miguel Avenue Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

	LOCATION OF PROPERTY	TCT NO	FLOOR AREA	LOT AREA	MINIMUM BID
	BULACAN AREA				
	BELMONT PARK VILLAGE **Bo. Caypombo Sta Maria Bulacan**				
1	BLK 15 LOT 30	T-344550(M)	22.00	38.50	255,479.65
	CARISSA HOMES NORTH **Bo. Sto Cristo San Jose Del Monte Bulacan**				
2	BLK 01 LOT 04 PH 5C	T-35287P (M)	20.62	55.00	170,162.87
	CITYVILLE HOMES **Bo. Tungkong Mangga, San Jose Del Monte Bulacan**				
3	BLK 08 LOT 05	T-202746(M)	31.50	35.00	233,325.95
4	BLK 10 LOT 06	T-202802(M)	31.50	35.00	233,325.95
	HARMONY HILLS SUBD **Bo. Muzon San Jose Del Monte Bulacan**				
5	BLK 02 LOT 82 PH I	T-196568(M)	24.00	38.00	197,090.62
6	BLK 12 LOT 48 PH I	T-197220(M)	24.00	38.00	197,090.62
7	BLK 13 LOT 41 PH I	T-197277 (M)	24.00	57.00	305,512.12
8	BLK 19 LOT 11 PH II	T-266054(M	20.00	35.00	196,563.59
9	BLK 19 LOT 16 PH II	T-266059(M)	20.00	35.00	159,341.98
10	BLK 21 LOT 57 PH I	T-197681(M)	24.00	57.00	179,039.30
11	BLK 23 LOT 30 PH I	T-197782(M)	24.00	38.00	197,090.62
12	BLK 26 LOT 26 PH I	T-197970(M)	24.00	38.00	197,090.62
13	BLK 29 LOT 69 PH I	T-198205	24.00	38.00	197,090.62
14	BLK 30 LOT 21 PH I	T-198251(M)	24.00	59.00	310,484.12
15	BLK 52 LOT 03 PH I	T-200107(M)	24.00	38.00	197,090.62
	MELODY PLAINS SUBD **Bo. Sta Maria Meycauyan Bulacan**				
16	BLK 14 LOT 22	T-243620(M)	20.16	39.60	192,524.53
17	BLK 25 LOT 12	T-243657(M)	20.16	39.60	179,726.10
18	BLK 29 LOT 13	T-243952(M)	20.16	39.60	192,524.53
19	BLK 39 LOT 19	T-244208(M)	20.16	39.60	192,524.53
20	BLK 48 LOT 17	T-244523(M)	20.16	39.60	192,524.53
21	BLK 51 LOT 20	T-244592(M)	20.16	39.60	173,272.08
22	BLK 63 LOT 19 & 20	T-244919(M)/20M	20.16	81.40	296,174.26
23	BLK 95 LOT 09	T-245764(M)	20.16	39.60	192,524.53
24	BLK 99 LOT 12	T-245856(M)	20.16	39.60	158,628.59
	NORTHRIDGE **Bo. Sto Cristo SJDM Bulacan**				
25	BLK 06 LOT 37	T-363764(M)	36.00	44.00	216,355.25
	NORTHWINDS CITY **Bo. Sto Cristo SJDM Bulacan**				
26	BLK 09 LOT 10 PH 4C	T-55288P(M)	25.00	60.00	276,119.64
27	BLK 07 LOT 18 PH 3B	T-272865(M)	25.00	79.00	236,455.33
	SARMIENTO HOMES **Bo. Muzon SJDM Bulacan**				
28	BLK 22 LOT 37	T-236497(M)	26.40	60.00	341,075.20
29	BLK 28 LOT 75	T-426288(M)	26.40	40.00	193,764.36
30	BLK 31 LOT 08	T-235768(M)	20.72	40.00	220,740.64
31	BLK 50 LOT 45	T-20369P(M)	26.40	40.00	224,332.80
	WOODBRIDGE **Bo. Poblacion Pandi Bulacan**				
32	BLK 64 LOT 07	T-353669(M)	20.00	42.00	151,396.12
	CAVITE AREA				
	ARMSTRONG VILLAGE **Bo. Salawag, Dasmarinas Cavite**				
33	BLK 02 LOT 67	T-543426	21.00	38.00	189,418.13
34	BLK 04 LOT 16	T-543589	21.00	38.00	189,418.13
	BELLEVIEW MEADOWS **Bo. Bagtas Tanza Cavite**				
35	BLK 01 LOT 09 SEC 33	T-605186	20.16	39.60	189,382.01
36	BLK 05 LOT 13 SEC 34	T-605423	20.16	39.60	172,434.98
	BELVEDERE **Bo. Quintana Tanza Cavite** **Bo. Pasong Kawayan Gen Trias Cavite**				
37	BLK 01 LOT 03 & 04 SEC 07 PH I	T-672907A/906A	20.12	77.00	321,838.25
38	BLK 01 LOT 06 SEC 02 PH II	T-666560	20.12	38.50	197,516.95
39	BLK 01 LOT 06 SEC 04 PH II	T-667000	20.12	38.50	184,867.92
40	BLK 01 LOT 06 SEC 08 PH III	T-732650	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
41	BLK 01 LOT 08 & 10 SEC 07 PH I	T-672911A/913A	20.12	77.00	318,806.25
42	BLK 01 LOT 08 SEC 02 PH II	6-666582	20.12	38.50	208,753.63
43	BLK 01 LOT 08 SEC 03 PH II	T-666762	20.12	38.50	206,804.91
44	BLK 01 LOT 08 SEC 10 PH III	T-732823	20.12	36.00	193,134.86
45	BLK 01 LOT 09 & 11 SEC 05 PH I	T-671032/34	20.12	77.00	325,276.72
46	BLK 01 LOT 10 SEC 10 PH III	T-732825	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
47	BLK 01 LOT 10 SEC 2 PH II	T-666564	20.12	38.50	208,181.62
48	BLK 01 LOT 102 & 103 SEC 10 PH I	T-674040-A/41-A	20.12	77.00	330,253.16
49	BLK 01 LOT 104 & 105 SEC 10 PH I	T-674042A/043A	20.12	74.50	317,801.72
50	BLK 01 LOT 112 SEC 10 PH I	T-674050-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
51	BLK 01 LOT 115 & 116 SEC 10 PH I	T-674054-A	20.12	84.00	307,913.39
52	BLK 01 LOT 12 SEC 01 PH II	T-665898	20.12	38.50	169,345.26
53	BLK 01 LOT 12 SEC 09 PH I	T-673628-A	20.12	38.50	213,334.96
54	BLK 01 LOT 14 SEC 01 PH II	T-665900	20.12	38.50	180,470.20
55	BLK 01 LOT 16 SEC 02 PH II	T-666570	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
56	BLK 01 LOT 16 SEC 04 PH II	T-667010	20.12	38.50	206,601.31
57	BLK 01 LOT 16 SEC 10 PH III	T-732831	20.12	36.00	171,081.52
58	BLK 01 LOT 18 SEC 02 PH II	T-666572	20.12	35.00	181,126.41
59	BLK 01 LOT 19 SEC 01 PH II	T-665905	20.12	38.50	211,216.20
60	BLK 01 LOT 20 SEC 04 PH II	T-667014	20.12	38.50	190,513.41
61	BLK 01 LOT 21 SEC 01 PH II	T-665907	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
62	BLK 01 LOT 22 & 24 SEC 07 PH I	T-672925-A/927A	20.12	77.00	325,276.72
63	BLK 01 LOT 22 & 24 SEC 09 PH I	T-673638A/640A	20.12	38.50	326,323.25
64	BLK 01 LOT 22 SEC 02 PH II	T-666576	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
65	BLK 01 LOT 25 SEC 07 PH I	T-672928-A	20.12	38.50	212,711.42
66	BLK 01 LOT 26 SEC 04 PH II	T-667020	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
67	BLK 01 LOT 27 SEC 01 PH II	T-665913	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
68	BLK 01 LOT 27 SEC 06 PH I	T-672370-A	20.12	38.50	212,066.57
69	BLK 01 LOT 28 SEC 10 PH III	T-732843	20.12	36.00	196,148.03
70	BLK 01 LOT 29 & 31 SEC 04 PH II	T-667023/025	20.12	77.00	305,383.68
71	BLK 01 LOT 30 SEC 02 PH II	T-666584	20.12	38.50	210,537.54
72	BLK 01 LOT 30 SEC 04 PH II	T-667024	20.12	38.50	169,345.26
73	BLK 01 LOT 30 SEC 08 PH III	T-732674	20.12	36.00	174,798.65
74	BLK 01 LOT 34 SEC 03 PH II	T-666788	20.12	38.50	203,237.09
75	BLK 01 LOT 34 SEC 04 PH II	T-667028	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
76	BLK 01 LOT 36 SEC 03 PH II	T-666790	20.12	38.50	169,345.26
77	BLK 01 LOT 36 SEC 07 PH I	T-672939-A	20.12	38.50	211,950.23
78	BLK 01 LOT 37 & 39 SEC 02 PH II	T-666591/93	20.12	77.00	337,048.35
79	BLK 01 LOT 37 & 39 SEC 04 PH II	T-667033/031	20.12	77.00	266,746.70
80	BLK 01 LOT 38 SEC 10 PH III	T-732853	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
81	BLK 01 LOT 41 SEC 01 PH I	T-667326	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
82	BLK 01 LOT 46 SEC 01 PH I	T-667331	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
83	BLK 01 LOT 56 & 57 SEC 10 PH I	T-673994A/995A	20.12	77.00	321,838.25
84	BLK 01 LOT 92 & 93 SEC 10 PH I	T-674030-A/031A	20.12	77.00	289,139.39
85	BLK 02 LOT 02 & 04 SEC 02 PH III	T-692631/629	20.12	72.00	297,804.86
86	BLK 02 LOT 02 & 04 SEC 10 PH III	T-328860/862	20.12	36.00	304,317.12
87	BLK 02 LOT 02 SEC 09 PH I	T-673642	20.12	38.50	199,923.30
88	BLK 02 LOT 05 SEC 01 PH I	T-667340	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
89	BLK 02 LOT 05 SEC 08 PH III	T-732688	20.12	36.00	194,238.09
90	BLK 02 LOT 06 SEC 02 PH II	T-666600	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
91	BLK 02 LOT 06 SEC 03 PH II	T-666800	20.12	38.50	207,774.42
92	BLK 02 LOT 06 SEC 04 PH II	T-667040	20.12	38.50	204,187.21
93	BLK 02 LOT 06 SEC 10 PH III	T-732864	20.12	36.00	188,450.08
94	BLK 02 LOT 07 SEC 01 PH I	T-667342	20.12	38.50	177,503.42
95	BLK 02 LOT 08 SEC 02 PH II	T-666602	20.12	38.50	184,443.38
96	BLK 02 LOT 08 SEC 04 PH II	T-667042	20.12	38.50	162,558.65
97	BLK 02 LOT 08 SEC 10 PH III	T-732866	20.12	36.00	194,364.12
98	BLK 02 LOT 09 SEC 09 PH I	T-673649A	20.12	38.50	192,710.52
99	BLK 02 LOT 10 SEC 15 PH III	T-733441	20.12	36.00	193,134.86
100	BLK 02 LOT 11 SEC 01 PH II	T-665927	20.12	38.50	180,470.20
101	BLK 02 LOT 11 SEC 07 PH I	T-672954-A	20.12	38.50	190,670.98
102	BLK 02 LOT 12 SEC 01 PH I	T-667347	20.12	38.50	207,122.91
103	BLK 02 LOT 12 SEC 03 PH II	T-666806	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
104	BLK 02 LOT 12 SEC 07 PH I	T-672955-A	20.12	38.50	197,034.65
105	BLK 02 LOT 13 & 15 SEC 04 PH II	T-667047/49	20.12	77.00	301,426.29
106	BLK 02 LOT 13 SEC 08 PH I	T-673484	20.12	38.50	192,710.62
107	BLK 02 LOT 14 SEC 01 PH II	T-665930	20.12	38.50	197,516.95
108	BLK 02 LOT 15 SEC 08 PH I	T-673488-A	20.12	38.50	204,648.03
109	BLK 02 LOT 16 SEC 01 PH II	T-665932	20.12	38.50	211,390.72
110	BLK 02 LOT 16 SEC 02 PH II	T-666610	20.12	38.50	205,466.97
111	BLK 02 LOT 16 SEC 08 PH I	T-67387A	20.12	38.50	211,468.38
112	BLK 02 LOT 16 SEC 08 PH III	T-732699	20.12	36.00	175,060.41
113	BLK 02 LOT 16 SEC 10 PH III	T-732874	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
114	BLK 02 LOT 17 SEC 01 PH II	T-665933	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
115	BLK 02 LOT 18 & 20 SEC 08 PH I	T-673489/673491	20.12	77.00	305,383.68
116	BLK 02 LOT 18 SEC 01 PH II	T-665934	20.12	38.50	207,144.24
117	BLK 02 LOT 18 SEC 04 PH II	T-667052	20.12	38.50	190,513.41
118	BLK 02 LOT 19 SEC 01 PH II	T-665935	20.12	38.50	209,897.66
119	BLK 02 LOT 19 SEC 08 PH III	T-732702	20.12	36.00	190,379.41
120	BLK 02 LOT 20 SEC 01 PH II	T-665936	20.12	38.50	198,244.08
121	BLK 02 LOT 20 SEC 04 PH II	T-667054	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
122	BLK 02 LOT 21 SEC 07 PH I	T-672964A	20.12	38.50	169,047.98
123	BLK 02 LOT 25 & 27 SEC 05 PH I	T-671090/088	20.12	77.00	292,749.05
124	BLK 02 LOT 25 SEC 01 PH II	T-665941	20.12	38.50	169,345.26
125	BLK 02 LOT 26 & 28 SEC 07 PH I	T-672969A/71	20.12	77.00	288,695.39
126	BLK 02 LOT 26 SEC 01 PH II	T-665942	20.12	38.50	209,151.13
127	BLK 02 LOT 27 SEC 01 PH II	T-665943	20.12	38.50	169,345.26
128	BLK 02 LOT 27 SEC 06 PH I	T-672410-A	20.12	38.50	200,015.49
129	BLK 02 LOT 29 & 31 SEC 04 PH II	T-667063/65	20.12	77.00	337,048.35
130	BLK 02 LOT 29 SEC 06 PH I	T-672412-A	20.12	38.50	208,336.74
131	BLK 02 LOT 30 SEC 03 PH II	T-666824	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
132	BLK 02 LOT 30 SEC 05 PH I	T-671093	20.12	38.50	177,331.10
133	BLK 02 LOT 31 SEC 03 PH I	T-667667	20.12	38.50	197,901.95
134	BLK 02 LOT 32 SEC 03 PH II	T-666826	20.12	38.50	190,513.41
135	BLK 02 LOT 34 & 36 SEC 04 PH I	T-670751/753	20.12	74.00	373,528.54
136	BLK 02 LOT 35 SEC 02 PH II	T-666654	20.12	38.50	188,785.74
137	BLK 02 LOT 36 SEC 03 PH II	T-666830	20.12	38.50	200,309.15
138	BLK 02 LOT 36 SEC 06 PH I	T-672419-A	20.12	38.50	274,681.57
139	BLK 02 LOT 43 SEC 06 PH III	T-732219	20.12	36.00	189,128.74
140	BLK 03 LOT 03 SEC 06 PH III	T-732230	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
141	BLK 03 LOT 04 & 05 SEC 08 PH III	T-732715/714	20.12	88.00	348,152.98
142	BLK 03 LOT 05 SEC 01 PH II	T-665951	20.12	38.50	208,802.11
143	BLK 03 LOT 05 SEC 04 PH III	T-692974	20.12	36.00	179,772.91
144	BLK 03 LOT 06 SEC 01 PH II	T-665952	20.12	54.00	260,312.80
145	BLK 03 LOT 06 SEC 08 PH I	T-673503	20.12	38.50	190,939.34
146	BLK 03 LOT 06 SEC 10 PH III	T-732890	20.12	36.00	175,060.41
147	BLK 03 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 07 PH I	T-672992A/990A	20.12	77.00	337,910.07
148	BLK 03 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 09 PH I	T-672660A/662A	20.12	77.00	321,838.25
149	BLK 03 LOT 08 & 10 SEC 09 PH I	T-673661A/63A	20.12	77.00	298,620.99
150	BLK 03 LOT 09 SEC 08 PH I	T-673506A	20.12	38.50	203,017.99
151	BLK 03 LOT 10 SEC 08 PH I	T-673507	20.12	38.50	210,216.66
152	BLK 03 LOT 11 SEC 04 PH II	T-667085	20.12	38.50	210,120.65
153	BLK 03 LOT 11 SEC 07 PH I	T-672994-A	20.12	38.50	192,710.52
154	BLK 03 LOT 11 SEC 10 PH III	T-732895	20.12	36.00	192,873.09
155	BLK 03 LOT 12 SEC 06 PH III	T-732239	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
156	BLK 03 LOT 12 SEC 10 PH III	T-732896	20.12	36.00	194,511.57
157	BLK 03 LOT 15 SEC 01 PH I	T-667374	20.12	38.50	192,710.52
158	BLK 03 LOT 15 SEC 10 PH III	T-732899	20.12	36.00	190,439.60
159	BLK 03 LOT 16 SEC 03 PH II	T-666850	20.12	38.50	208,802.11
160	BLK 03 LOT 16 SEC 06 PH III	T-732243	20.12	36.00	177,892.05
161	BLK 03 LOT 16 SEC 07 PH I	T-672999-A	20.12	38.50	194,870.41
162	BLK 03 LOT 17 SEC 06 PH III	T-732244	20.12	36.00	193,988.03
163	BLK 03 LOT 18 SEC 04 PH II	T-667092	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
164	BLK 03 LOT 18 SEC 08 PH I	T-673515-A	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
165	BLK 03 LOT 19 & 21 SEC 06 PH III	T-732246/732248	20.12	73.00	297,974.39
166	BLK 03 LOT 21 & 23 SEC 01 PH I	T-667382/380	20.12	72.50	306,823.35
167	BLK 03 LOT 21 SEC 01 PH II	T-665967	20.12	38.50	208,113.75
168	BLK 03 LOT 24 & 26 SEC 10 PH III	T-732910/08	20.12	81.00	289,905.31
169	BLK 03 LOT 24 SEC 04 PH II	T-667098	20.12	38.50	190,513.41
170	BLK 03 LOT 25 SEC 04 PH II	T-667099	20.12	38.50	207,609.60
171	BLK 03 LOT 26 SEC 07 PH I	T-673009-A	20.12	38.50	191,905.43
172	BLK 03 LOT 27 SEC 02 PH II	T-666646	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
173	BLK 03 LOT 27 SEC 04 PH II	T-667101	20.12	38.50	206,339.54
174	BLK 03 LOT 31 SEC 03 PH II	T-666865	20.12	53.00	254,891.57
175	BLK 03 LOT 32 SEC 03 PH II	T-666866	20.12	38.50	200,425.49
176	BLK 03 LOT 32 SEC 08 PH III	T-732742	20.12	36.00	185,619.09
177	BLK 03 LOT 36 SEC 04 PH II	T-667110	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
178	BLK 03 LOT 36 SEC 08 PH III	T-732746	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
179	BLK 03 LOT 38 & 40 SEC 03 PH II	T-666872/874	20.12	77.00	266,247.50
180	BLK 03 LOT 38 & 40 SEC 07 PH I	T-673021/023	20.12	38.50	337,755.26
181	BLK 03 LOT 38 SEC 08 PH III	T-732748	20.12	36.00	173,332.74
182	BLK 04 LOT 02 & 04 SEC 02 PH II	T-666661/663	20.12	82.50	353,438.35
183	BLK 04 LOT 03 & 04 SEC 02 PH I	T-667457/456	20.12	77.00	320,915.47
184	BLK 04 LOT 03 SEC 08 PH III	T-732765	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
185	BLK 04 LOT 05 & 07 SEC 01 PH II	T-665977/979	20.12	77.00	320,760.66
186	BLK 04 LOT 05 SEC 03 PH II	T-666879	20.12	38.50	209,267.48
187	BLK 04 LOT 05 SEC 04 PH II	T-667119	20.12	38.50	197,807.80
188	BLK 04 LOT 05 SEC 05 PH I	T-671152	20.12	38.50	187,027.86
189	BLK 04 LOT 05 SEC 10 PH III	T-732915	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
190	BLK 04 LOT 07 SEC 02 PH II	T-666666	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
191	BLK 04 LOT 07 SEC 04 PH II	T-667121	20.12	38.50	197,807.80
192	BLK 04 LOT 08 & 10 SEC 08 PH I	T-673527A/525A	20.12	70.00	317,771.02
193	BLK 04 LOT 08 SEC 03 PH II	T-666882	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
194	BLK 04 LOT 08 SEC 09 PH I	T-673685A	20.12	38.50	191,225.59
195	BLK 04 LOT 09 SEC 04 PH II	T-667123	20.12	38.50	206,252.28
196	BLK 04 LOT 09 SEC 10 PH III	T-732919	20.12	36.00	192,534.71
197	BLK 04 LOT 10 SEC 36 PH I	T-616678	20.12	40.50	194,044.22
198	BLK 04 LOT 11 SEC 08 PH III	T-732773	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
199	BLK 04 LOT 11 SEC 10 PH III	T-732921	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
200	BLK 04 LOT 12 SEC 03 PH II	T-666886	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
201	BLK 04 LOT 12 SEC 04 PH II	T-667126	20.12	38.50	200,163.72
202	BLK 04 LOT 13 SEC 10 PH III	T-732923	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
203	BLK 04 LOT 14 SEC 02 PH II	T-666673	20.12	38.50	210,014.00
204	BLK 04 LOT 14 SEC 03 PH II	T-666888	20.12	39.60	214,552.37
205	BLK 04 LOT 15 SEC 02 PH II	T-666674	20.12	38.50	211,390.72
206	BLK 04 LOT 15 SEC 07 PH I	T-673038-A	20.12	38.50	191,822.56
207	BLK 04 LOT 15 SEC 09 PH I	T-673692-A	20.12	57.00	262,038.25
208	BLK 04 LOT 16 SEC 04 PH II	T-667130	20.12	38.50	166,545.30
209	BLK 04 LOT 16 SEC 06 PH I	T-672479-A	20.12	38.50	209,158.02
210	BLK 04 LOT 16 SEC 10 PH III	T-732926	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
211	BLK 04 LOT 17 SEC 02 PH II	T-666676	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
212	BLK 04 LOT 18 SEC 01 PH II	T-665990	20.12	38.50	212,592.15
213	BLK 04 LOT 19 SEC 10 PH III	T-732929	20.12	36.00	177,892.05
214	BLK 04 LOT 20 SEC 03 PH II	T-666894	20.12	38.50	210,120.65
215	BLK 04 LOT 20 SEC 04 PH II	T-667134	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
216	BLK 04 LOT 21 SEC 02 PH II	T-666680	20.12	38.50	210,120.65
217	BLK 04 LOT 22 SEC 04 PH II	T-667136	20.12	38.50	207,774.42
218	BLK 04 LOT 22 SEC 08 PH III	T-732784	20.12	36.00	185,619.09
219	BLK 04 LOT 23 SEC 03 PH II	T-666897	20.12	38.50	208,666.38
220	BLK 04 LOT 25 SEC 07 PH I	T-673048-A	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
221	BLK 04 LOT 26 SEC 05 PH I	T-671173	20.12	37.00	176,121.32
222	BLK 04 LOT 29 SEC 03 PH II	T-666903	20.12	38.50	209,151.13
223	BLK 04 LOT 29 SEC 04 PH II	T-667143	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
224	BLK 04 LOT 32 SEC 04 PH II	T-667146	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
225	BLK 04 LOT 32 SEC 08 PH III	T-732794	20.12	36.00	185,880.86
226	BLK 04 LOT 34 SEC 02 PH II	T-666683	20.12	38.50	206,358.93
227	BLK 04 LOT 34 SEC 03 PH II	T-666908	20.12	38.50	188,070.24
228	BLK 04 LOT 34 SEC 06 PH III	T-732282	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
229	BLK 04 LOT 34 SEC 08 PH III	T-732796	20.12	36.00	182,506.95
230	BLK 04 LOT 35 SEC 03 PH II	T-666909	20.12	38.50	169,345.26
231	BLK 04 LOT 36 SEC 02 PH II	T-666695	20.12	38.50	188,323.28
232	BLK 04 LOT 36 SEC 04 PH II	T-667150	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
233	BLK 04 LOT 38 SEC 08 PH III	T-732800	20.12	36.00	188,450.08
234	BLK 04 LOT 39 SEC 08 PH III	T-732801	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
235	BLK 04 LOT 42 SEC 08 PH III	T-732804	20.12	36.00	182,448.77
236	BLK 04 LOT 43 SEC 08 PH III	T-732805	20.12	36.00	192,105.15
237	BLK 04 LOT 49 SEC 10 PH III	T-732959	20.12	36.00	173,184.40
238	BLK 04 LOT 50 SEC 08 PH III	T-732812	20.12	36.00	193,976.32
239	BLK 05 LOT 06 SEC 02 PH II	T-668705	20.12	38.50	209,948.14
240	BLK 05 LOT 06 SEC 09 PH I	T-673701	20.12	35.00	189,521.51
241	BLK 05 LOT 07 SEC 09 PH I	T-673702	20.12	35.00	189,521.51
242	BLK 05 LOT 08 SEC 04 PH II	T-667162	20.12	38.50	169,345.26
243	BLK 05 LOT 09 SEC 05 PH I	T-671194	20.12	38.50	187,155.46
244	BLK 05 LOT 09 SEC 08 PH I	T-673537-A	20.12	38.50	188,638.02
245	BLK 05 LOT 09 & 10 SEC 01 PH I	T-666008/07	20.12	110.00	419,408.25
246	BLK 05 LOT 10 SEC 03 PH II	T-666924	20.12	38.50	167,956.91
247	BLK 05 LOT 11 SEC 08 PH I	T-673539A	20.12	38.50	182,512.82
248	BLK 05 LOT 12 SEC 05 PH I	T-671197	20.12	38.50	213,285.27
249	BLK 05 LOT 12 SEC 07 PH I	T-673076-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
250	BLK 05 LOT 14 SEC 03 PH II	T-666928	20.12	38.50	190,513.41
251	BLK 05 LOT 14 SEC 35 PH I	T-615395	20.12	39.60	191,594.42
252	BLK 05 LOT 15 SEC 06 PH III	T-732301	20.12	36.00	190,602.40
253	BLK 05 LOT 16 SEC 09 PH I	T-673711	20.12	35.00	184,440.41
254	BLK 05 LOT 17 SEC 03 PH I	T-667773	20.12	38.50	210,304.86
255	BLK 05 LOT 17 SEC 06 PH III	T-732303	20.12	36.00	177,892.05
256	BLK 05 LOT 17 SEC 07 PH I	T-673080-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
257	BLK 05 LOT 18 SEC 06 PH III	T-732304	20.12	36.00	184,969.52
258	BLK 05 LOT 19 SEC 06 PH III	T-732305	20.12	36.00	193,481.86
259	BLK 05 LOT 19 SEC 09 PH I	T-673714-A	20.12	38.50	202,153.27
260	BLK 05 LOT 20 SEC 03 PH II	T-666934	20.12	38.50	211,099.86
261	BLK 05 LOT 21 SEC 07 PH I	T-673084-A	20.12	38.50	213,466.81
262	BLK 05 LOT 24 SEC 07 PH I	T-673087	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
263	BLK 05 LOT 24 SEC 10 PH III	T-782985	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
264	BLK 05 LOT 25 SEC 07 PH I	T-673088-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
265	BLK 05 LOT 27 SEC 06 PH I	T-672530	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
266	BLK 05 LOT 28 SEC 07 PH I	T-673091A	20.12	38.50	214,498.24
267	BLK 05 LOT 28 SEC 09 PH I	T-673723-A	20.12	35.00	186,857.78
268	BLK 05 LOT 28 SEC 10 PH III	T-732989	20.12	36.00	172,870.28
269	BLK 05 LOT 29 SEC 07 PH I	T-673092-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
270	BLK 05 LOT 30 & 32 SEC 05 PH I	T-671217/15	20.12	74.00	331,115.20
271	BLK 05 LOT 31 SEC 04 PH II	T-667185	20.12	38.50	208,065.28
272	BLK 05 LOT 31 SEC 07 PH I	T-673094-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
273	BLK 05 LOT 31 SEC 10 PH III	T-732992	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
274	BLK 05 LOT 32 SEC 02 PH II	T-666731	20.12	38.50	169,345.26
275	BLK 05 LOT 32 SEC 03 PH II	T-666946	20.12	38.50	184,972.64
276	BLK 05 LOT 32 SEC 04 PH I	T-670817	20.12	38.50	181,937.94
277	BLK 05 LOT 33 SEC 02 PH II	T-666732	20.12	39.00	191,854.41
278	BLK 05 LOT 33 SEC 04 PH II	T-667187	20.12	38.00	206,388.27
279	BLK 05 LOT 33 SEC 06 PH III	T-732319	20.12	36.00	184,668.97
280	BLK 05 LOT 36 SEC 03 PH II	T-666950	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
281	BLK 05 LOT 36 SEC 10 PH III	T-732997	20.12	36.00	174,569.23
282	BLK 05 LOT 39 SEC 06 PH III	T-732325	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
283	BLK 05 LOT 41 SEC 06 PH III	T-732327	20.12	36.00	188,479.16
284	BLK 05 LOT 42 SEC 10 PH III	T-733003	20.12	36.00	194,511.57
285	BLK 05 LOT 43 & 44 SEC 10 PH III	T-733004/005	20.12	72.00	272,224.49
286	BLK 05 LOT 49 SEC 06 PH III	T-732335	20.12	36.00	192,165.34
287	BLK 05 LOT 50 SEC 06 PH III	T-732336	20.12	36.00	177,892.05
288	BLK 05 LOT 51 SEC 06 PH III	T-732337	20.12	36.00	173,332.74
289	BLK 06 LOT 03 SEC 07 PH I	T-673106-A	20.12	38.50	214,120.17
290	BLK 06 LOT 05 SEC 01 PH II	T-666013	20.12	36.00	157,824.14
291	BLK 06 LOT 05 SEC 08 PH I	T-673546	20.12	49.00	238,118.25
292	BLK 06 LOT 06 SEC 05 PH I	T-671223	20.12	38.50	179,891.83
293	BLK 06 LOT 09 SEC 02 PH I	T-667514	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
294	BLK 06 LOT 09 SEC 02 PH II	T-666748	20.12	39.00	213,171.57
295	BLK 06 LOT 09 SEC 03 PH II	T-666963	20.12	38.50	169,345.26
296	BLK 06 LOT 09 SEC 10 PH III	T-733014	20.12	36.00	189,431.95
297	BLK 06 LOT 10 SEC 04 PH II	T-667204	20.12	38.50	210,479.37
298	BLK 06 LOT 12 SEC 04 PH II	T-667206	20.12	38.50	210,479.37
299	BLK 06 LOT 12 SEC 10 PH III	T-733017	20.12	36.00	193,123.14
300	BLK 06 LOT 13 & 15 SEC 08 PH I	T-673556A/54A	20.12	79.00	309,116.33
301	BLK 06 LOT 13 SEC 06 PH III	T-732355	20.12	38.50	192,202.10
302	BLK 06 LOT 15 & 17 SEC 03 PH II	T-666971/969	20.12	77.00	335,520.60
303	BLK 06 LOT 15 SEC 06 PH III	T-732357	20.12	36.00	194,511.57
304	BLK 06 LOT 16 SEC 04 PH II	T-667210	20.12	38.50	190,513.41
305	BLK 06 LOT 16 SEC 05 PH I	T-671233	20.12	38.00	208,666.72
306	BLK 06 LOT 17 SEC 07 PH I	T-673120-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
307	BLK 06 LOT 18 SEC 04 PH II	T-667212	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
308	BLK 06 LOT 19 SEC 06 PH III	T-732361	20.12	36.00	186,394.70
309	BLK 06 LOT 20 SEC 06 PH III	T-732362	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
310	BLK 06 LOT 21 SEC 06 PH I	T-672564-A	20.12	38.50	191,932.54
311	BLK 06 LOT 22 SEC 06 PH I	T-672565A	20.12	38.50	199,550.12
312	BLK 06 LOT 22 SEC 10 PH III	T-733027	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
313	BLK 06 LOT 23 & 25 SEC 03 PH II	T-666979/977	20.12	77.00	337,048.35
314	BLK 06 LOT 23 SEC 07 PH I	T-673126-A	20.12	38.50	192,710.52
315	BLK 06 LOT 24 SEC 03 PH II	T-666976	20.12	38.50	162,426.79
316	BLK 06 LOT 24 SEC 07 PH I	T-673127-A	20.12	38.50	211,953.41
317	BLK 06 LOT 25 SEC 06 PH III	T-732367	20.12	36.00	192,078.09
318	BLK 06 LOT 26 SEC 03 PH II	T-666980	20.12	38.50	211,681.57
319	BLK 06 LOT 26 SEC 06 PH III	T-732368	20.12	36.00	184,668.97
320	BLK 06 LOT 28 SEC 06 PH I	T-672571-A	20.12	38.50	189,073.68
321	BLK 06 LOT 29 SEC 06 PH I	T-672572	20.12	38.50	210,304.86
322	BLK 06 LOT 30 SEC 06 PH III	T-732372	20.12	36.00	194,511.57
323	BLK 06 LOT 31 SEC 06 PH III	T-732373	20.12	36.00	189,002.70
324	BLK 06 LOT 32 SEC 04 PH II	T-667226	20.12	38.50	188,323.28
325	BLK 06 LOT 32 SEC 06 PH III	T-732374	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
326	BLK 06 LOT 37 & 39 SEC 07 PH I	T-673140/142	20.12	77.00	337,458.65
327	BLK 06 LOT 38 & 40 SEC 06 PH III	732380/732382	20.12	72.00	307,028.35
328	BLK 07 LOT 02 & 04 SEC 08 PH I	T-673560/58-A	20.12	77.00	340,085.20
329	BLK 07 LOT 02 SEC 07 PH I	T-673145-A	20.12	38.50	205,657.66
330	BLK 07 LOT 06 SEC 06 PH III	T-732387	20.12	36.00	175,060.41
331	BLK 07 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 09 PH I	T-673764A/762A	20.12	103.50	419,320.20
332	BLK 07 LOT 08 & 10 SEC 09 PH I	T-673763-A/65-A	20.12	103.50	419,320.20
333	BLK 07 LOT 08 SEC 07 PH I	T-673151A	20.12	38.50	171,298.24
334	BLK 07 LOT 08 SEC 10 PH III	T-733039	20.12	36.00	175,060.41
335	BLK 07 LOT 09 SEC 06 PH III	T-732391	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
336	BLK 07 LOT 10 SEC 10 PH III	T-733041	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
337	BLK 07 LOT 12 SEC 10 PH III	T-733043	20.12	36.00	191,312.17
338	BLK 07 LOT 14 SEC 08 PH I	T-673570-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
339	BLK 07 LOT 14 SEC 09 PH I	T-673769A	20.12	38.50	175,383.37
340	BLK 07 LOT 16 SEC 02 PH I	T-667534	20.12	38.50	212,066.57
341	BLK 07 LOT 17 SEC 06 PH I	T-672600	20.12	38.50	192,902.05
342	BLK 07 LOT 17 SEC 08 PH I	T-673573	20.12	38.50	185,446.89
343	BLK 07 LOT 18 SEC 04 PH I	T-670883	20.12	38.50	205,286.78
344	BLK 07 LOT 19 SEC 04 PH III	T-693114	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
345	BLK 07 LOT 20 SEC 10 PH III	T-733051	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
346	BLK 07 LOT 21 SEC 06 PH I	T-672604-A	20.12	38.50	189,306.75
347	BLK 07 LOT 22 SEC 09 PH I	T-673777-A	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
348	BLK 07 LOT 25 SEC 07 PH I	T-673168-A	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
349	BLK 07 LOT 25 SEC 09 PH I	T-673780	20.12	42.00	211,891.68
350	BLK 07 LOT 34 SEC 06 PH III	T-732416	20.12	36.00	154,321.74
351	BLK 08 LOT 01 & 03 SEC 08 PH I	T-673579-A/581	20.12	80.50	298,526.39
352	BLK 08 LOT 05 & 07 SEC 04 PH I	T-670910/670912	20.12	77.00	329,208.62
353	BLK 08 LOT 06 SEC 06 PH III	T-732428	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
354	BLK 08 LOT 06 SEC 08 PH I	T-673584-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
355	BLK 08 LOT 08 & 10 SEC 06 PH I	T-672633A/631A	20.12	77.00	287,013.89
356	BLK 08 LOT 08 & 10 SEC 07 PH I	T-673182A/180A	20.12	77.00	331,857.05
357	BLK 08 LOT 08 SEC 08 PH I	T-673586-A	20.12	38.50	201,676.19
358	BLK 08 LOT 09 & 11 SEC 01 PH II	T-666038/40	20.12	72.00	314,648.89
359	BLK 08 LOT 11 SEC 06 PH I	T-672634-A	20.12	38.50	205,631.79
360	BLK 08 LOT 11 SEC 07 PH I	T-673183-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
361	BLK 08 LOT 12 SEC 08 PH I	T-673590-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
362	BLK 08 LOT 13 SEC 06 PH I	T-672636-A	20.12	36.00	202,158.09
363	BLK 08 LOT 14 SEC 06 PH III	T-732436	20.12	36.00	193,956.93
364	BLK 08 LOT 16 SEC 07 PH I	T-673188-A	20.12	38.50	213,275.33
365	BLK 08 LOT 19 SEC 03 PH I	T-670436	20.12	38.50	209,051.38
366	BLK 08 LOT 20 SEC 02 PH I	T-667564	20.12	38.50	205,274.21
367	BLK 08 LOT 21 SEC 09 PH I	T-673802-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
368	BLK 08 LOT 23 SEC 09 PH I	T-673804A	20.12	38.50	211,734.74
369	BLK 08 LOT 25 SEC 09 PH I	T-673806-A	20.12	42.00	225,163.74
370	BLK 08 LOT 27 SEC 07 PH I	T-673199-A	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
371	BLK 08 LOT 28 SEC 06 PH III	T-732450	20.12	36.00	196,671.57
372	BLK 08 LOT 28 SEC 07 PH I	T-673200-A	20.12	38.50	171,298.24
373	BLK 08 LOT 29 SEC 07 PH I	T-673201-A	20.12	38.50	211,983.22
374	BLK 08 LOT 36 SEC 06 PH I	T-672659-A	20.12	38.50	203,147.03
375	BLK 08 LOT 38 & 40 SEC 07 PH I	T-673210/212	20.12	77.00	318,036.25
376	BLK 09 LOT 06 & 08 SEC 01 PH II	T-666049/047	20.12	80.00	343,981.83
377	BLK 09 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 01 PH II	T-666048/050	20.12	72.00	322,855.26
378	BLK 09 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 02 PH I	T-667577/579	20.12	77.60	339,612.35
379	BLK 09 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 09 PH I	T-673816A/814A	20.12	77.00	289,139.39
380	BLK 09 LOT 08 & 10 SEC 07 PH I	T-673222A/220A	20.12	77.00	325,276.72
381	BLK 09 LOT 11 SEC 01 PH II	T-666052	20.12	36.00	149,936.33
382	BLK 09 LOT 11 SEC 09 PH I	T-673818-A	20.12	38.50	175,383.37
383	BLK 09 LOT 13 SEC 01 PH II	T-666054	20.12	67.00	291,268.25
384	BLK 09 LOT 15 SEC 02 PH I	T-667585	20.12	38.00	210,571.57
385	BLK 09 LOT 16 SEC 06 PH I	T-672679A	20.12	38.50	193,287.05
386	BLK 09 LOT 16 SEC 09 PH I	T-673823A	20.12	38.50	192,710.52
387	BLK 09 LOT 17 SEC 07 PH I	T-673229-A	20.12	38.50	204,648.03
388	BLK 09 LOT 18 SEC 07 PH I	T-673230A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
389	BLK 09 LOT 19 SEC 03 PH I	T-670476	20.12	38.50	190,859.91
390	BLK 09 LOT 19 SEC 04 PH I	T-670964	20.12	38.50	202,153.27
391	BLK 09 LOT 19 SEC 05 PH I	T-671297	20.12	38.50	197,322.78
392	BLK 09 LOT 19 SEC 09 PH I	T-673826A	20.12	38.50	181,937.94
393	BLK 09 LOT 20 SEC 04 PH I	T-670965	20.12	38.50	202,153.27
394	BLK 09 LOT 20 SEC 05 PH I	T-671298	20.12	38.00	207,188.38
395	BLK 09 LOT 20 SEC 09 PH I	T-673827-A	20.12	38.50	212,798.24
396	BLK 09 LOT 21 SEC 07 PH I	T-673233-A	20.12	38.50	164,372.55
397	BLK 09 LOT 22 SEC 04 PH I	T-670967	20.12	38.50	177,172.44
398	BLK 09 LOT 22 SEC 05 PH I	T-671300	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
399	BLK 09 LOT 22 SEC 09 PH I	T-673829-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
400	BLK 09 LOT 23 SEC 09 PH I	T-673830-A	20.12	38.50	181,937.94
401	BLK 09 LOT 25 & 27 SEC 09 PH I	T-673832-A/34-A	20.12	78.50	326,323.25
402	BLK 09 LOT 25 SEC 07 PH I	T-673237-A	20.12	38.50	197,322.78
403	BLK 09 LOT 26 SEC 06 PH I	T-672689A	20.12	38.50	175,520.23
404	BLK 09 LOT 27 SEC 07 PH I	T-673239A	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
405	BLK 09 LOT 29 SEC 07 PH I	T-673241A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
406	BLK 09 LOT 31 SEC 07 PH I	T-673243-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
407	BLK 09 LOT 32 SEC 07 PH I	T-673244-A	20.12	38.50	212,013.04
408	BLK 09 LOT 35 SEC 06 PH I	T-672698-A	20.12	38.50	205,716.24
409	BLK 09 LOT 37 & 39 SEC 07 PH I	T-673249A/251A	20.12	77.00	321,838.25
410	BLK 10 LOT 03 & 04 PH I	T-673838A/839A	20.12	77.00	340,085.20
411	BLK 10 LOT 03 SEC 07 PH I	T-673255-A	20.12	38.50	171,298.24
412	BLK 10 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 06 PH I	T-672712-A/710A	20.12	77.00	303,746.02
413	BLK 10 LOT 11 SEC 07 PH I	T-673263-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
414	BLK 10 LOT 16 SEC 07 PH I	T-673268A	20.12	38.50	177,331.10
415	BLK 10 LOT 17 SEC 09 PH I	T-673852-A	20.12	38.50	213,702.72
416	BLK 10 LOT 18 SEC 09 PH I	T-673853A	20.12	38.50	189,508.09
417	BLK 10 LOT 20 SEC 09 PH I	T-673855-A	20.12	38.50	203,017.99
418	BLK 10 LOT 22 SEC 07 PH I	T-673274-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
419	BLK 10 LOT 26 & 28 SEC 09 PH I	T-673863A/861A	20.12	84.50	343,340.47
420	BLK 10 LOT 27 SEC 06 PH I	T-672730-A	20.12	38.50	190,859.91
421	BLK 10 LOT 27 SEC 07 PH I	T-673279-A	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
422	BLK 10 LOT 30 SEC 03 PH I	T-670527	20.12	38.50	198,059.87
423	BLK 10 LOT 30 SEC 05 PH I	T-672253-A	20.12	38.50	212,013.04
424	BLK 10 LOT 31 SEC 05 PH I	T-672254-A	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
425	BLK 10 LOT 38 & 40 SEC 07 PH I	T-673292-A/90-A	20.12	77.00	321,838.25
426	BLK 11 LOT 01 & 02 SEC 07 PH I	T-673293A/94A	20.12	82.50	338,283.25
427	BLK 11 LOT 01 & 03 SEC 01 PH II	T-666077	20.12	72.00	245,092.79
428	BLK 11 LOT 05 SEC 01 PH II	T-666079	20.12	36.00	193,841.19
429	BLK 11 LOT 06 SEC 01 PH II	T-666080	20.12	36.00	203,174.17
430	BLK 11 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 07 PH I	T-673301A/99A	20.12	77.00	289,139.39
431	BLK 11 LOT 07 SEC 01 PH II	T-666081	20.12	36.00	179,976.36
432	BLK 11 LOT 08 SEC 01 PH II	T-666082	20.12	36.00	197,836.78
433	BLK 11 LOT 10 SEC 01 PH II	T-666084	20.12	36.00	179,359.12
434	BLK 11 LOT 13 SEC 09 PH I	T-673876-A	20.12	38.50	177,331.10
435	BLK 11 LOT 14 & 15 SEC 01 PH II	T-666089/088	20.12	70.00	307,865.16
436	BLK 11 LOT 14 SEC 07 PH I	T-672306-A	20.12	38.50	192,710.52
437	BLK 11 LOT 15 SEC 09 PH I	T-673878-A	20.12	38.50	175,383.37
438	BLK 11 LOT 16 SEC 09 PH I	T-673879-A	20.12	41.00	184,718.30
439	BLK 11 LOT 18 SEC 07 PH I	T-673310-A	20.12	38.50	192,200.63
440	BLK 11 LOT 22 SEC 05 PH I	T-672285-A	20.12	38.50	181,937.94
441	BLK 11 LOT 23 SEC 05 PH I	T-672286-A	20.12	38.50	202,153.27
442	BLK 11 LOT 25 SEC 07 PH I	T-673317-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
443	BLK 11 LOT 28 SEC 06 PH I	T-672771-A	20.12	38.50	210,043.09
444	BLK 11 LOT 28 SEC 07 PH I	T-673320-A	20.12	38.50	202,153.27
445	BLK 12 LOT 06 SEC 01 PH II	T-666095	20.12	36.00	192,151.51
446	BLK 12 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 07 PH I	T-673341/39	20.12	77.00	301,426.89
447	BLK 12 LOT 08 & 10 SEC 07 PH I	T-673342A/40A	20.12	77.00	305,097.67
448	BLK 12 LOT 08 SEC 01 PH II	T-666097	20.12	36.00	194,318.27
449	BLK 12 LOT 10 SEC 01 PH II	T-666099	20.12	36.00	179,976.36
450	BLK 12 LOT 11 SEC 09 PH I	T-673891-A	20.12	39.00	189,455.74

	LOCATION OF PROPERTY	TCT NO	FLOOR AREA	LOT AREA	MINIMUM BID
451	BLK 12 LOT 12 SEC 01 PH II	T-666101	20.12	36.00	206,672.80
452	BLK 12 LOT 12 SEC 09 PH I	T-673892-A	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
453	BLK 12 LOT 16 SEC 01 PH II	T-666105	20.12	36.00	206,672.80
454	BLK 12 LOT 17 SEC 07 PH I	T-673349-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
455	BLK 12 LOT 18 SEC 01 PH II	T-666107	20.12	36.00	165,338.24
456	BLK 12 LOT 21 SEC 07 PH I	673353-A	20.12	38.50	192,710.52
457	BLK 12 LOT 23 SEC 07 PH I	T-673365-A	20.12	38.50	192,710.52
458	BLK 12 LOT 25 SEC 06 PH I	T-672808-A	20.12	38.50	210,304.86
459	BLK 12 LOT 25 SEC 07 PH I	T-673357-A	20.12	38.50	213,526.44
460	BLK 12 LOT 26 SEC 07 PH I	T-673358	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
461	BLK 12 LOT 27 SEC 06 PH I	T-672810-A	20.12	38.50	190,074.61
462	BLK 12 LOT 28 SEC 09 PH I	T-673908A	20.12	41.00	209,200.68
463	BLK 12 LOT 30 SEC 06 PH I	T-672813-A	20.12	38.50	190,330.17
464	BLK 12 LOT 33 SEC 03 PH I	T-670610	20.12	38.50	212,066.57
465	BLK 12 LOT 33 SEC 05 PH I	T-672336 A	20.12	35.00	202,492.27
466	BLK 12 LOT 33 SEC 06 PH I	T-672816-A	20.12	38.50	207,629.79
467	BLK 12 LOT 34 SEC 07 PH I	T-673366-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
468	BLK 13 LOT 05 SEC 01 PH II	T-666117	20.12	36.00	192,151.51
469	BLK 13 LOT 08 & 10 SEC 07 PH I	T-673382A/380A	20.12	76.00	286,004.39
470	BLK 13 LOT 08 SEC 01 PH II	T-666120	20.12	36.00	157,800.29
471	BLK 13 LOT 12 SEC 07 PH I	T-673384-A	20.12	38.00	213,012.80
472	BLK 13 LOT 12 SEC 09 PH I	T-673920-A	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
473	BLK 13 LOT 13 SEC 07 PH I	T-673385-A	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
474	BLK 13 LOT 14 SEC 01 PH II	T-666126	20.12	36.00	165,338.24
475	BLK 13 LOT 14 SEC 09 PH I	T-673922	20.12	38.50	212,711.42
476	BLK 13 LOT 15 SEC 01 PH II	T-666127	20.12	36.00	157,959.32
477	BLK 13 LOT 15 SEC 03 PH I	T-670632	20.12	38.50	190,650.50
478	BLK 13 LOT 15 SEC 07 PH I	T-673787A	20.12	38.50	192,710.52
479	BLK 13 LOT 17 SEC 01 PH II	T-666129	20.12	36.00	165,338.24
480	BLK 13 LOT 17 SEC 03 PH I	T-670634	20.12	38.50	212,066.57
481	BLK 13 LOT 17 SEC 07 PH I	T-673389-A	20.12	38.50	213,493.99
482	BLK 13 LOT 19 SEC 03 PH I	T-670636	20.12	38.50	175,520.23
483	BLK 13 LOT 19 SEC 07 PH I	T-673391-A	20.12	38.50	175,383.37
484	BLK 13 LOT 20 SEC 06 PH I	T-672843-A	20.12	35.00	181,441.41
485	BLK 13 LOT 21 SEC 07 PH I	T-673393-A	20.12	38.50	199,986.51
486	BLK 13 LOT 22 SEC 01 PH II	T-666134	20.12	36.00	192,151.51
487	BLK 13 LOT 23 SEC 01 PH II	T-666135	20.12	36.00	165,338.24
488	BLK 13 LOT 23 SEC 03 PH I	T-670640	20.12	38.50	208,615.09
489	BLK 13 LOT 23 SEC 06 PH I	T-672846-A	20.12	38.50	209,633.09
490	BLK 13 LOT 23 SEC 07 PH I	T-673396	20.12	38.50	194,870.41
491	BLK 13 LOT 23 SEC 09 PH I	T-673931-A	20.12	38.50	210,919.72
492	BLK 13 LOT 25 SEC 01 PH II	T-666137	20.12	36.00	206,672.80
493	BLK 13 LOT 25 SEC 07 PH I	T-673397A	20.12	38.50	194,870.41
494	BLK 13 LOT 26 SEC 01 PH II	T-666138	20.12	36.00	192,151.51
495	BLK 13 LOT 27 SEC 01 PH II	T-666139	20.12	36.00	174,886.44
496	BLK 13 LOT 27 SEC 03 PH I	T-670644	20.12	38.50	188,078.96
497	BLK 13 LOT 28 SEC 01 PH II	T-666140	20.12	36.00	168,678.37
498	BLK 13 LOT 31 SEC 01 PH II	T-666143	20.12	36.00	192,151.51
499	BLK 13 LOT 35 SEC 07 PH I	T-673407A	20.12	38.50	192,415.32
500	BLK 13 LOT 37 & 39 SEC 03 PH I	T-670654/656	20.12	77.00	336,183.01
501	BLK 14 LOT 02/04/06 SEC 01 PH I	666147/149	20.12	79.00	543,766.40
502	BLK 14 LOT 03 SEC 07 PH I	T-673415A	20.12	38.50	190,340.00
503	BLK 14 LOT 05 & 06 SEC 03 PH I	T-670663/662	20.12	82.50	351,562.88
504	BLK 14 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 07 PH I	T-673419-A/421A	20.12	77.00	321,838.25
505	BLK 14 LOT 15 SEC 07 PH I	T-673427	20.12	38.50	212,711.42
506	BLK 14 LOT 17 SEC 03 PH I	T-670674	20.12	38.50	195,022.48
507	BLK 14 LOT 21 SEC 03 PH I	T-670678	20.12	38.50	190,094.58
508	BLK 14 LOT 21 SEC 06 PH I	T-672884-A	20.12	38.50	212,066.57
509	BLK 14 LOT 21 SEC 07 PH I	T-673433-A	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
510	BLK 14 LOT 23 SEC 03 PH I	T-670680	20.12	38.50	190,094.58
511	BLK 14 LOT 23 SEC 07 PH I	T-673435-A	20.12	38.50	214,507.80
512	BLK 14 LOT 25 SEC 03 PH I	T-670682	20.12	38.50	211,507.06
513	BLK 14 LOT 26 & 28 SEC 07 PH I	T-673438A/440A	20.12	76.00	300,755.75
514	BLK 14 LOT 27 SEC 06 PH I	T-672890A	20.12	38.50	190,513.41
515	BLK 14 LOT 33 SEC 03 PH I	T-670690	20.12	38.50	212,066.57
516	BLK 14 LOT 35 SEC 07 PH I	T-672447	20.12	38.50	184,972.79
517	BLK 15 LOT 06 SEC 01 PH II	T-666189	20.12	36.00	206,672.80
518	BLK 15 LOT 10 SEC 01 PH II	T-666193	20.12	36.00	192,151.51
519	BLK 15 LOT 12 SEC 01 PH II	T-666195	20.12	36.00	149,936.33
520	BLK 15 LOT 14 SEC 01 PH II	T-666197	20.12	36.00	149,936.33
521	BLK 15 LOT 16 SEC 01 PH II	T-666199	20.12	36.00	163,385.26
522	BLK 15 LOT 18 & 20 SEC 01 PH II	T-666201/203	20.12	72.00	306,168.25
523	BLK 15 LOT 22 & 24 SEC 01 PH II	T-666205/207	20.12	72.00	306,168.25
524	BLK 15 LOT 28 SEC 01 PH I	T-666211	20.12	36.00	184,234.34
525	BLK 15 LOT 39 & 41 SEC 01 PH II	T-666224/222	20.12	72.00	305,102.66
526	BLK 16 LOT 02 & 04 SEC 01 PH II	T-666227/229	20.12	84.00	272,185.20
527	BLK 16 LOT 09 SEC 01 PH II	T-666234	20.12	36.00	192,151.51
528	BLK 16 LOT 14 SEC 01 PH II	T-666239	20.12	36.00	192,151.51
529	BLK 16 LOT 15 SEC 01 PH II	T-666240	20.12	35.00	172,204.44
530	BLK 16 LOT 34 SEC 01 PH II	T-666259	20.12	36.00	195,182.99
531	BLK 17 LOT 07 SEC 01 PH II	T-666274	20.12	36.00	192,151.51
532	BLK 17 LOT 10 SEC 01 PH II	T-666277	20.12	36.00	206,672.80
533	BLK 17 LOT 19 SEC 01 PH II	T-666286	20.12	57.00	266,161.68
534	BLK 17 LOT 24 SEC 01 PH II	T-666291	20.12	36.00	194,318.27
535	BLK 18 LOT 03 SEC 01 PH II	T-666304	20.12	46.00	180,113.62
536	BLK 20 LOT 11 SEC 01 PH II	T-666316	20.12	36.00	203,343.14
537	BLK 20 LOT 14 SEC 01 PH II	T-666321	20.12	36.00	206,672.80
538	BLK 20 LOT 17 SEC 01 PH II	T-666324	20.12	36.00	159,509.85
539	BLK 20 LOT 22 SEC 01 PH II	T-666329	20.12	36.00	206,672.80
540	BLK 20 LOT 26 SEC 01 PH II	T-666333	20.12	36.05	192,151.51
541	BLK 21 LOT 11 SEC 01 PH II	T-666352	20.12	36.00	202,786.54
542	BLK 21 LOT 15 SEC 01 PH II	T-666356	20.12	36.00	196,085.26
543	BLK 21 LOT 16 SEC 01 PH II	T-666357	20.12	36.00	192,151.51
544	BLK 21 LOT 27 SEC 01 PH II	T-666368	20.12	36.00	204,883.73
545	BLK 21 LOT 28 SEC 01 PH II	T-666369	20.12	36.00	177,704.24
546	BLK 21 LOT 30 SEC 01 PH II	T-666371	20.12	36.00	192,151.51
547	BLK 21 LOT 34 SEC 01 PH II	T-666375	20.12	36.00	189,199.55
548	BLK 21 LOT 37 SEC 01 PH II	T-666378	20.12	36.00	192,151.51
549	BLK 21 LOT 38 SEC 01 PH II	T-666379	20.12	36.00	199,268.04
550	BLK 21 LOT 39 SEC 01 PH II	T-666380	20.12	36.00	201,612.66
551	BLK 22 LOT 05 & 07 SEC 01 PH II	T-666388/390	20.12	72.00	305,267.44
552	BLK 22 LOT 28 SEC 01 PH II	T-666411	20.12	38.00	189,199.55
553	BLK 22 LOT 30 SEC 01 PH II	T-666413	20.12	38.00	189,348.63
554	BLK 22 LOT 34 SEC 01 PH II	T-666417	20.12	36.00	194,318.27
555	BLK 22 LOT 38 SEC 01 PH II	T-666421	20.12	36.00	206,672.80
556	BLK 23 LOT 02 & 04 SEC 01 PH II	T-666427	20.12	72.00	255,700.41
557	BLK 23 LOT 16 SEC 01 PH II	T-666441	20.12	36.00	192,151.51
558	BLK 23 LOT 18 SEC 01 PH II	T-666443	20.12	36.00	201,305.59
559	BLK 23 LOT 19 SEC 01 PH II	T-666444	20.12	36.00	165,338.24
560	BLK 23 LOT 23 SEC 01 PH II	T-666448	20.12	36.00	186,853.88
561	BLK 24 LOT 12 SEC 01 PH II	T-666461	20.12	36.00	158,816.07
562	BLK 24 LOT 17 & 18 SEC 01 PH II	T-666466/467	20.12	88.00	289,520.51
563	BLK 25 LOT 05 SEC 01 PH II	T-666472	20.12	36.00	193,930.64
564	BLK 25 LOT 06 SEC 01 PH II	T-666473	20.12	38.00	154,166.49
565	BLK 25 LOT 08 SEC 01 PH II	T-666475	20.12	36.00	165,338.24
566	BLK 25 LOT 09 SEC 01 PH II	T-666476	20.12	82.00	335,968.25
567	BLK 26 LOT 10 & 12 SEC 01 PH II	T-666491	20.12	72.00	259,532.16
568	BLK 26 LOT 14 & 16 SEC 01 PH II	T-666493/95	20.12	72.00	320,317.60
569	BLK 27 LOT 03 SEC 01 PH II	T-666507	20.12	38.50	171,298.24
570	BLK 27 LOT 05 & 06 SEC 01 PH II	T-666509/510	20.12	86.50	367,625.20
571	BLK 27 LOT 08 & 10 SEC 01 PH II	T-666512/14	20.12	80.00	330,008.25
572	BLK 27 LOT 12 SEC 01 PH II	T-666516	20.12	40.00	204,071.51
573	BLK 27 LOT 22 SEC 01 PH II	T-666526	20.12	40.00	174,874.24
574	BLK 27 LOT 24 SEC 01 PH II	T-666528	20.12	40.00	216,942.88
575	BLK 29 LOT 03 & 04 SEC 01 PH II	T-666534/33	20.12	77.00	339,315.20
	CAPITOL HILLS EXEC SUBD				
	Bo. Lapidario Trece Martires City, Cavite				
576	BLK 04 LOT 15	T-28883	24.50	39.00	257,994.26
577	BLK 04 LOT 27	T-28895	24.50	39.00	270,137.25
578	BLK 04 LOT 28	T-28896	24.50	39.00	270,267.50
579	BLK 04 LOT 30	T-28898	24.50	39.00	262,466.47
580	BLK 04 LOT 41	T-28909	24.50	39.00	260,194.18
581	BLK 05 LOT 06	T-28921	24.50	39.00	244,534.21
582	BLK 05 LOT 11	T-28926	24.50	39.00	264,738.75
583	BLK 05 LOT 13	T-28928	24.50	39.00	261,132.79
584	BLK 05 LOT 17	T-28932	24.50	39.00	249,556.40
585	BLK 05 LOT 28	T-28943	24.50	39.00	259,470.52
586	BLK 05 LOT 33	T-28948	24.50	39.00	248,166.97
587	BLK 05 LOT 43	T-289958	24.50	39.00	249,556.40
588	BLK 06 LOT 16	T-28979	24.50	39.00	270,614.86
589	BLK 06 LOT 29	T-28992	24.50	39.00	259,484.99
590	BLK 06 LOT 34	T-28997	24.50	39.00	244,534.21
591	BLK 06 LOT 35	T-28998	24.50	39.00	244,534.21
592	BLK 06 LOT 36	T-28999	24.50	39.00	257,498.72
593	BLK 06 LOT 39	T-29002	24.50	39.00	258,081.10
594	BLK 07 LOT 13	T-29025	24.50	39.00	272,607.18
595	BLK 07 LOT 18	T-29030	24.50	39.00	262,205.95
596	BLK 07 LOT 26	T-29038	24.50	69.00	372,688.22
597	BLK 07 LOT 36	T-29048	24.50	39.00	260,396.80
598	BLK 08 LOT 11	T-29073	24.50	39.00	261,684.92
599	BLK 08 LOT 17	T-29079	24.50	39.00	256,011.43
600	BLK 08 LOT 22	T-29084	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
601	BLK 08 LOT 47	T-29109	24.50	39.00	249,556.40
602	BLK 08 LOT 48	T-29110	24.50	39.00	251,770.79
603	BLK 08 LOT 49	T-29111	24.50	39.00	244,534.21
604	BLK 09 LOT 15	T-29129	24.50	39.00	275,529.33
605	BLK 09 LOT 17	T-29131	24.50	39.00	256,848.25
606	BLK 09 LOT 24	T-29138	24.50	39.00	259,919.19
607	BLK 09 LOT 26	T-29140	24.50	39.00	250,569.52
608	BLK 09 LOT 34	T-29148	24.50	39.00	281,019.15
609	BLK 09 LOT 44	T-29158	24.50	39.00	268,142.65
610	BLK 09 LOT 49	T-29163	24.50	39.00	248,166.97
611	BLK 09 LOT 50	T-29164	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
612	BLK 10 LOT 25	T-29193	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
613	BLK 10 LOT 26	T-29194	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
614	BLK 10 LOT 39	T-29207	24.50	39.00	268,429.41
615	BLK 11 LOT 52	T-29275	24.50	39.00	270,354.34
616	BLK 13 LOT 21	T-29299	24.50	39.00	282,596.72
617	BLK 14 LOT 08	T-29340	24.50	53.00	315,921.70
618	BLK 14 LOT 21	T-29353	24.50	53.00	315,921.70
619	BLK 14 LOT 31	T-29363	24.50	39.00	281,684.92
620	BLK 25 LOT 12 & 13	T-16551/15737	60.00	160.00	660,422.00
621	BLK 36 LOT 51	T-9688	30.00	75.00	392,469.80
622	BLK 37 LOT 10	T-22003	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
623	BLK 38 LOT 31	T-22099	24.50	39.00	249,556.40
624	BLK 38 LOT 50	T-22118	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
625	BLK 38 LOT 69	T-22137	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
626	BLK 39 LOT 27	T-22170	24.50	39.00	265,968.97
627	BLK 39 LOT 29	T-22172	24.50	39.00	249,556.40
628	BLK 45 LOT 14	T-21649	24.50	39.00	288,527.52
629	BLK 45 LOT 30	T-21665	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
630	BLK 45 LOT 31	T-21666	24.50	39.00	266,982.10
631	BLK 45 LOT 35	T-21670	24.50	39.00	249,556.40
632	BLK 45 LOT 38	T-21673	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
633	BLK 45 LOT 42	T-21677	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
634	BLK 45 LOT 48	T-21683	24.50	39.00	269,746.47
635	BLK 47 LOT 17	T-22290	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
636	BLK 47 LOT 32	T-22305	24.50	39.00	269,746.47
637	BLK 47 LOT 34	T-22307	24.50	39.00	249,556.40
638	BLK 47 LOT 36	T-22309	24.50	39.00	265,317.87
639	BLK 47 LOT 37	T-22310	24.50	39.00	266,793.94
640	BLK 48 LOT 23 & 24	22342/343	24.50	78.00	540,404.75
641	BLK 48 LOT 27	T-22346	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
642	BLK 48 LOT 33	T-22352	24.50	39.00	251,466.86
643	BLK 48 LOT 46	T-22365	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
644	BLK 48 LOT 52	T-22371	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
645	BLK 48 LOT 55	T-22374	24.50	39.00	254,506.22
646	BLK 49 LOT 06	T-21694	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
647	BLK 49 LOT 14	T-21702	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
648	BLK 49 LOT 21	T-21709	24.50	39.00	259,687.62
649	BLK 49 LOT 31	T-21719	24.50	39.00	249,556.40
650	BLK 49 LOT 37	T-21725	24.50	39.00	248,024.95
651	BLK 49 LOT 38	T-21726	24.50	62.00	349,498.21
652	BLK 49 LOT 46	T-21734	24.50	39.00	249,556.40
653	BLK 50 LOT 10	T-21771	24.50	39.00	266,938.68
654	BLK 50 LOT 11	T-21772	24.50	39.00	268,924.20
655	BLK 50 LOT 18	T-21779	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
656	BLK 50 LOT 28	T-21789	24.50	39.00	270,701.70
657	BLK 50 LOT 36	T-21797	24.50	39.00	249,556.40
658	BLK 50 LOT 56	T-21817	24.50	39.00	269,746.47
659	BLK 50 LOT 72	T-21833	24.50	39.00	245,677.59
660	BLK 50 LOT 81	T-21842	24.50	39.00	258,767.12
	CARISSA HOMES TANZA				
	Bo. Bagtas Tanza Cavite				
661	BLK 03 LOT 10 PH3A	T-884349	20.62	35.00	141,082.88
662	BLK 05 LOT 09 PH3A	T-887183	20.62	35.00	140,253.68
663	BLK 147 LOT 26 PH7	T-911933	18.00	33.00	147,446.92
664	BLK 15 LOT 05 PH2	T-980410	20.62	35.00	172,035.00
665	BLK 17 LOT 22 PH4	T-694694	20.62	61.00	196,828.90
666	BLK 18 LOT 20 PH4	T-883657	20.62	61.00	221,432.52
667	BLK 20 LOT 19 PH3B	T-884354	20.62	35.00	141,082.88
668	BLK 25 LOT 11 PH5	T-742182	20.00	54.00	249,086.42
669	BLK 28 LOT 22 PH5	T-726315	20.62	35.00	158,088.24
670	BLK 40 LOT 11 PH6	T-726782	18.00	33.00	153,550.97
671	BLK 40 LOT 28 PH6	T-1035481	18.00	33.00	162,393.27
672	BLK 42 LOT 10 PH3B	T-742206	20.62	35.00	157,729.42
673	BLK 47 LOT 06 PH3	T-980407	20.62	35.00	156,833.88
674	BLK 60 LOT 03 PH1A	T-953378	20.62	35.00	159,719.21
675	BLK 72 LOT 06 PH2	T-1036909	20.62	35.00	158,228.82
676	BLK 73 LOT 48 PH6	T-913090	18.00	33.00	144,952.49
677	BLK 06 LOT 22 PH3	T-944537	20.62	69.00	184,292.15
678	BLK 34 LOT 27 PH4	T-694874	0.00	35.00	91,350.00
	CH LA TRINIDAD				
	Bo. Quintana Trece Martires City				
679	BLK 72 LOT 17 PH3	T-62954	25.00	70.00	258,422.50
	CITIHOMES RESORTVILLE				
	Bo. Lancaan Dasmarinas, Cavite				
680	BLK 02 LOT 25 PH V	T-594206	20.00	52.50	284,790.17
681	BLK 05 LOT 04 PH V	T-594262	20.00	35.00	188,965.92
682	BLK 10 LOT 23 PH V	T-594369	20.00	35.00	197,198.34
683	BLK 12 LOT 10 PH I	T-458120	36.00	76.00	422,264.45
684	BLK 17 LOT 43 PH I	T-457755	24.00	38.00	201,147.08
685	BLK 18 LOT 36 PH V	T-594710	20.00	35.00	197,082.66
686	BLK 20 LOT 11 PH V	T-594763	20.00	35.00	182,015.60
687	BLK 20 LOT 32 PH V	T-594784	20.00	35.00	159,883.88
688	BLK 22 LOT 19 PH V	T-594859	20.00	52.50	151,200.00
689	BLK 22 LOT 23 PH V	T-594363	36.00	78.00	178,950.13
690	BLK 23 LOT 07 PH I	T-582168	24.00	38.00	173,350.49
691	BLK 23 LOT 09 PH V	T-594896	20.00	35.00	160,191.02
692	BLK 24 LOT 01 PH V	T-594935	20.00	53.50	249,610.33
693	BLK 24 LOT 10 PH V	T-594944	20.00	35.00	182,767.51
694	BLK 26 LOT 01 PH V	T-595019	20.00	50.50	236,134.37
695	BLK 29A LOT 08 PH V	T-592147	20.00	35.00	181,292.61
696	BLK 36 LOT 22 PH V	T-592073	20.00	50.50	276,572.11
697	BLK 38 LOT 02 PH I	T-457834	36.00	74.00	374,959.57
698	BLK 38 LOT 03 PH I	T-457835	36.00	76.00	393,746.71
699	BLK 39 LOT 30 PH I	T-457924	36.00	76.00	367,887.40
700	BLK 41 LOT 21B PH I	T-683479	24.00	38.00	198,672.61
701	BLK 41 LOT 33A PH I	T-683502	24.00	38.00	199,723.50
702	BLK 42 LOT 09 PH V	T-591653	20.00	35.00	188,850.24
703	BLK 49 LOT 100 PH V	T-591898	20.00	52.50	262,747.79
704	BLK 49 LOT 25 PH V	T-591823	20.00	35.00	181,292.61
705	BLK 49 LOT 44 PH V	T-591842	20.00	69.00	310,267.79
706	BLK 49 LOT 52 PH V	T-591850	20.00	35.00	182,015.60
707	BLK 49 LOT 67 PH V	T-591865	20.00	35.00	182,015.60
708	BLK 49 LOT 86 PH V	T-591884	20.00	35.00	179,075.45
709	BLK 50 LOT 71 PH V	T-591579	20.00	52.50	246,716.97
710	BLK 50 LOT 72 PH V	T-591580	20.00	52.50	246,730.33
711	BLK 52 LOT 88 PH V	T-588135	20.00	52.50	238,554.61
712	BLK 61 LOT 23 PH V	T-591367	20.00	35.00	181,292.61
713	BLK 61 LOT 27 PH V	T-591371	20.00	35.00	181,928.64
714	BLK 61 LOT 29 PH V	T-591373	20.00	35.00	163,814.04
715	BLK 61 LOT 30 PH V	T-591374	20.00	61.00	271,210.33
716	BLK 62 LOT 16 PH V	T-591391	20.00	52.50	279,553.44
717	BLK 66 LOT 25 PH V	T-591493	20.00	35.00	197,111.58
718	BLK 66 LOT 35 PH V	T-591503	20.00	35.00	186,555.98
719	BLK 73 LOT 13 PH I	T-458235	36.00	78.00	381,272.52
720	BLK 77 LOT 48 PH I	T-658623	30.00	47.50	248,617.16
721	BLK 81 LOT 13A PH I	T-683588	24.00	38.00	200,051.77
	CITIHOMES BUROL				
	Bo. Burol Dasmarinas, Cavite				
722	BLK 73 LOT 24	T-355103	36.00	76.00	340,455.33
	LANDMASS PARK SUBD				
	Bo. Biga Tanza Cavite				
723	BLK 10 LOT 30	T-1048016	21.60	40.00	231,802.49
	MABUHAY CITY-PALIPARAN				
	Bo. Paliparan Dasmarinas Cavite				
724	BLK 143 LOT 10 PH 1	T-718781	20.00	36.00	210,686.84
725	BLK 153 LOT 12 PH I	T-724118	20.00	36.00	210,686.84
726	BLK 182 LOT 05 PH I	T-724850	25.00	63.00	306,035.10
	MBH 2000-SALAWAG				
	Bo. Salawag Dasmarinas Cavite				
727	BLK 05 LOT 25 PH 5	T-613122	25.00	43.00	199,114.12
728	BLK 16 LOT 15 PH 5	T-613382	25.00	43.00	200,364.44
729	BLK 24 LOT 07 PH 5	T-613551	25.00	67.00	256,639.36
730	BLK 27 LOT 18 PH 5	T-613591	25.00	43.00	189,486.70
731	BLK 29 LOT 12 PH 5	T-613646	25.00	43.00	202,105.26
732	BLK 31 LOT 13 PH 5	T-633744	25.00	43.00	202,086.02
733	BLK 47 LOT 15 PH V	T-634229	25.00	43.00	203,721.05
734	BLK 48 LOT 03 PH 5	T-634253	25.00	43.00	189,486.70
735	BLK 57 LOT 01 PH 5	T-634397	25.00	43.00	212,779.72
736	BLK 59 LOT 23 PH 5	T-634465	25.00	43.00	201,210.80
737	BLK 63 LOT 27 PH 5	T-634600	25.00	91.00	331,912.16
738	BLK 69 LOT 25 PH 5	T-634747	25.00	43.00	201,210.80
739	BLK 72 LOT 11 PH 5	T-634846	25.00	43.00	203,721.05
740	BLK 73 LOT 19 PH 5	T-634887	25.00	43.00	197,786.86
741	BLK 78 LOT 10 PH 5	T-635016	25.00	43.00	197,084.76
742	BLK 82 LOT 05 PH 5	T-635127	25.00	43.00	203,721.05
	PAG-IBIG CITY SUBD				
	Bo. Molino Bacoor Cavite				
743	BLK 09 LOT 17 PH I	T-511611	35.00	145.00	567,286.41
744	BLK 15 LOT 46 PH2	T-533026	38.00	112.50	475,106.04
	RANCHO IMPERIAL				
	Bo. Tartaria Silang Cavite				
745	BLK 05 LOT 14	T-626131	20.74	35.00	176,651.59
746	BLK 58 LOT 09	T-628201	20.74	45.00	218,986.80
747	BLK 68 LOT 16	T-628510	20.74	35.00	164,621.22
	SAN MARINO				
	Bo. Salawag Dasmarinas Cavite				
748	BLK 01 LOT 07 PH 3 WEST	T-448944	20.62	35.00	175,700.49
749	BLK 04 LOT 08 PH 3 WEST	T-448699	20.62	35.00	184,105.94
750	BLK 06 LOT 38 PH I WEST	T-1048017	20.62	35.00	184,105.94
751	BLK 14 LOT 36 PH 3 WEST	T-1012181	20.62	35.00	182,905.16
752	BLK 14 LOT 85 PH 2 SOUTH	T-853380	25.00	50.00	272,925.00
753	BLK 19 LOT 20 PH 1 & 2 WEST	T-436567	20.62	35.00	187,257.97
754	BLK 23 LOT 33 CENTRAL	T-1001923	28.00	50.00	232,314.06
755	BLK 24 LOT 20 CENTRAL	T-1048013	28.00	50.00	249,170.40
756	BLK 11 LOT 39 PH 3 WEST	T-987841	20.62	35.00	202,949.99
	SUNNY BROOKE				
	Bo. Elang Gen Trias Cavite				
757	BLK 01 LOT 07 SEC 04 PH II	T-749453	20.12	35.00	189,449.30
758	BLK 01 LOT 08 SEC 06 PH I	T-690444	20.12	35.00	184,708.22
759	BLK 01 LOT 09 SEC 07 PH I	T-690519	20.12	35.00	183,958.03
760	BLK 01 LOT 11 SEC 07 PH I	T-690521	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
761	BLK 01 LOT 11 SEC 11 PH I	T-691295	20.12	35.00	178,165.20
762	BLK 01 LOT 12 SEC 09 PH I	T-690900	20.12	35.00	190,024.96
763	BLK 01 LOT 13 & 15 SEC 06 PH I	T-690449/451	20.12	70.00	296,243.95
764	BLK 01 LOT 14 SEC 05 PH I	T-690219	20.12	35.00	167,646.61
765	BLK 01 LOT 14 SEC 08 PH I	T-690757	20.12	35.00	189,404.78
766	BLK 01 LOT 15 SEC 04 PH II	T-749461	20.12	35.00	154,701.68
767	BLK 01 LOT 16 SEC 06 PH I	T-690452	20.12	35.00	160,371.61
768	BLK 01 LOT 16 SEC 06 PH II	T-750025	20.12	35.00	179,414.04
769	BLK 01 LOT 16 SEC 10 PH I	T-690993	20.12	35.00	156,735.51
770	BLK 01 LOT 18 SEC 05 PH II	T-749751	20.12	35.00	182,455.44
771	BLK 01 LOT 18 SEC 10 PH I	T-690995	20.12	35.00	179,014.75
772	BLK 01 LOT 19 & 21 SEC 07 PH I	T-690531/29	20.12	70.00	269,724.56
773	BLK 01 LOT 19 SEC 13 PH I	T-691817	20.12	35.00	160,390.30
774	BLK 01 LOT 20 SEC 05 PH II	T-749753	20.12	35.00	159,748.03
775	BLK 02 LOT 05 & 07 SEC 13 PH I	T-691829/831	20.12	75.00	269,256.02
776	BLK 02 LOT 09 SEC 07 PH I	T-690541	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
777	BLK 02 LOT 12 SEC 07 PH I	T-690544	20.12	35.00	187,482.68
778	BLK 02 LOT 13 SEC 11 PH I	T-691321	20.12	35.00	178,165.20
779	BLK 02 LOT 13 SEC 13 PH I	T-691837	20.12	35.00	161,368.98
780	BLK 02 LOT 15 SEC 09 PH I	T-690927	20.12	35.00	188,147.45
781	BLK 02 LOT 15 SEC 13 PH I	T-691839	20.12	35.00	180,280.58
782	BLK 02 LOT 21 SEC 1A PH I	T-688943	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
783	BLK 02 LOT 22 SEC 05 PH II	T-749778	20.12	35.00	179,702.89
784	BLK 02 LOT 24 SEC 01 PH I	T-688227	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
785	BLK 02 LOT 24 SEC 1A PH I	T-688946	20.12	35.00	185,807.26
786	BLK 02 LOT 28 SEC 05 PH II	T-749784	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
787	BLK 02 LOT 30 SEC 05 PH II	T-749786	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
788	BLK 02 LOT 31 SEC 03 PH I	T-689669	20.12	35.00	195,546.82
789	BLK 02 LOT 32 SEC 04 PH II	T-749530	20.12	35.00	184,621.80
790	BLK 02 LOT 33 SEC 03 PH I	T-689671	20.12	35.00	172,123.01
791	BLK 03 LOT 03 & 04 SEC 04 PH I	T-689957/58	20.12	75.00	287,273.39
792	BLK 03 LOT 04 SEC 06 PH II	T-750096	20.12	35.00	180,280.58
793	BLK 03 LOT 05 SEC 13 PH I	T-691852	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
794	BLK 03 LOT 06 & 08 SEC 07 PH I	T-690562	20.12	70.00	264,373.35
795	BLK 03 LOT 06 & 08 SEC 09 PH I	T-690943/945	20.12	70.00	269,857.08
796	BLK 03 LOT 06 SEC 02 PH I	T-689028	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
797	BLK 03 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 01 PH I	T-688238/240	20.12	70.00	297,190.32
798	BLK 03 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 10 PH I	T-691029/027	20.12	70.00	250,339.50
799	BLK 03 LOT 07 SEC 05 PH II	T-749799	20.12	35.00	158,884.04
800	BLK 03 LOT 10 SEC 02 PH I	T-689032	20.12	35.00	189,774.89
801	BLK 03 LOT 10 SEC 08 PH I	T-690811	20.12	35.00	154,701.68
802	BLK 03 LOT 10 SEC 09 PH I	T-690947	20.12	35.00	212,993.22
803	BLK 03 LOT 11 SEC 04 PH I	T-689965	20.12	35.00	187,161.96
804	BLK 03 LOT 11 SEC 08 PH I	T-690812	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
805	BLK 03 LOT 13 SEC 07 PH I	T-690567	20.12	35.00	197,406.36
806	BLK 03 LOT 14 SEC 04 PH I	T-689968	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
807	BLK 03 LOT 14 SEC 11 PH I	T-691344	20.12	35.00	155,512.16
808	BLK 03 LOT 15 SEC 08 PH I	T-690816	20.12	35.00	179,014.75
809	BLK 03 LOT 15 SEC 10 PH I	T-691035	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
810	BLK 03 LOT 16 SEC 01A PH I	T-688967	20.12	35.00	170,420.72
811	BLK 03 LOT 16 SEC 06 PH II	T-750108	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
812	BLK 03 LOT 16 SEC 11 PH I	T-691346	20.12	35.00	158,643.62
813	BLK 03 LOT 17 SEC 07 PH I	T-690571	20.12	35.00	187,482.68
814	BLK 03 LOT 18 & 20 SEC 09 PH I	T-690957/955	20.12	71.00	274,673.03
815	BLK 03 LOT 19 SEC 03 PH I	T-689697	20.12	35.00	197,406.36
816	BLK 03 LOT 20 SEC 01 PH I	T-688251	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
817	BLK 03 LOT 22 SEC 01A PH I	T-688973	20.12	35.00	159,409.86
818	BLK 03 LOT 22 SEC 05 PH II	T-749814	20.12	35.00	186,507.81
819	BLK 03 LOT 23 SEC 05 PH I	T-749815	20.12	35.00	170,907.77
820	BLK 03 LOT 23 SEC 1A PH I	T-688974	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
821	BLK 04 LOT 01 SEC 08 PH I	T-750632	20.12	35.00	200,515.15
822	BLK 04 LOT 02 SEC 03 PH I	T-749340	20.12	50.00	241,925.16
823	BLK 04 LOT 03 SEC 08 PH II	T-750634	20.12	35.00	179,600.94
824	BLK 04 LOT 04 SEC 05 PH II	T-749824	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
825	BLK 04 LOT 05 & 07 SEC 08 PH I	T-690837/835	20.12	70.00	295,311.33
826	BLK 04 LOT 06 & 08 SEC 07 PH I	T-690584/690582	20.12	75.00	268,529.41
827	BLK 04 LOT 06 SEC 05 PH II	T-749826	20.12	35.00	171,274.78
828	BLK 04 LOT 08 SEC 05 PH II	T-749828	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
829	BLK 04 LOT 10 SEC 03 PH II	T-689713	20.12	35.00	196,043.93
830	BLK 04 LOT 10 SEC 05 PH I	T-690281	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
831	BLK 04 LOT 10 SEC 10 PH I	T-691050	20.12	35.00	179,210.15
832	BLK 04 LOT 11 SEC 03 PH I	T-689714	20.12	35.00	167,678.36
833	BLK 04 LOT 11 SEC 08 PH I	T-690841	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
834	BLK 04 LOT 12 SEC 05 PH II	T-749832	20.12	35.00	185,191.00
835	BLK 04 LOT 13 SEC 05 PH I	T-690284	20.12	35.00	165,851.21
836	BLK 04 LOT 13 SEC 10 PH I	T-691053	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
837	BLK 04 LOT 13 SEC 14 PH I	T-692049	20.12	35.00	154,701.68
838	BLK 04 LOT 14 SEC 01 PH II	T-745970	20.12	35.00	188,716.65
839	BLK 04 LOT 14 SEC 07 PH I	T-690590	20.12	35.00	168,717.84
840	BLK 04 LOT 15 SEC 01A PH I	T-688993	20.12	35.00	190,410.08
841	BLK 04 LOT 16 SEC 11 PH I	T-691367	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
842	BLK 04 LOT 17 SEC 11 PH I	T-691368	20.12	35.00	182,612.25
843	BLK 04 LOT 18 SEC 03 PH I	T-689721	20.12	35.00	170,797.40
844	BLK 04 LOT 19 SEC 05 PH II	T-749839	20.12	35.00	162,714.67
845	BLK 04 LOT 20 SEC 03 PH I	T-689723	20.12	35.00	188,099.46
846	BLK 04 LOT 21 SEC 05 PH II	T-749841	20.12	35.00	171,274.78
847	BLK 04 LOT 22 SEC 05 PH II	T-749842	20.12	35.00	188,555.23
848	BLK 04 LOT 22 SEC 10 PH I	T-691062	20.12	35.00	177,460.07
849	BLK 04 LOT 27 SEC 06 PH II	T-750155	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
850	BLK 05 LOT 02 SEC 04 PH II	T-749586	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
851	BLK 05 LOT 05 SEC 05 PH I	T-690295	20.12	35.00	188,357.74
852	BLK 05 LOT 06 & 08 SEC 02 PH I	T-689053/55	20.12	85.00	379,040.09
853	BLK 05 LOT 06 & 08 SEC 14 PH I	T-692067/069	20.12	70.00	263,065.14
854	BLK 05 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 02 PH I	T-689056/054	20.12	85.00	368,942.26
855	BLK 05 LOT 07 SEC 05 PH II	T-749855	20.12	35.00	171,274.78
856	BLK 05 LOT 08 SEC 05 PH I	T-690298	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
857	BLK 05 LOT 08 SEC 12 PH I	T-691690	20.12	35.00	186,611.52
858	BLK 05 LOT 10 SEC 03 PH I	T-689739	20.12	35.00	171,319.36
859	BLK 05 LOT 10 SEC 04 PH II	T-749594	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
860	BLK 05 LOT 11 SEC 11 PH I	T-690383	20.12	35.00	163,514.12
861	BLK 05 LOT 11 SEC 13 PH I	T-691868	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
862	BLK 05 LOT 11 SEC 14 PH I	T-692072	20.12	35.00	176,876.88
863	BLK 05 LOT 12 SEC 03 PH I	T-689741	20.12	35.00	188,937.17
864	BLK 05 LOT 12 SEC 04 PH I	T-690016	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
865	BLK 05 LOT 12 SEC 10 PH I	T-691078	20.12	35.00	178,165.20
866	BLK 05 LOT 12 SEC 14 PH I	T-692073	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
867	BLK 05 LOT 13 SEC 14 PH I	T-692074	20.12	35.00	163,204.01
868	BLK 05 LOT 14 SEC 07 PH I	T-690612	20.12	35.00	172,123.01
869	BLK 05 LOT 15 SEC 10 PH I	T-691081	20.12	35.00	177,460.07
870	BLK 05 LOT 16 SEC 08 PH II	T-750663	20.12	35.00	187,916.07
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872	BLK 05 LOT 18 SEC 10 PH I	T-691084	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
873	BLK 05 LOT 19 SEC 08 PH I	T-690878	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
874	BLK 05 LOT 20 SEC 05 PH II	T-749868	20.12	35.00	184,029.78
875	BLK 05 LOT 21 SEC 13 PH I	T-691878	20.12	35.00	178,165.20
876	BLK 05 LOT 25 & 27 SEC 13 PH I	T-691884/82	20.12	75.00	305,108.22
877	BLK 05 LOT 25 SEC 03 PH I	T-689754	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
878	BLK 05 LOT 26 SEC 03 PH I	T-689755	20.12	35.00	160,735.47
879	BLK 05 LOT 26 SEC 05 PH II	T-749874	20.12	35.00	180,883.77
880	BLK 05 SEC 01 SEC 06 PH II	T-750172	20.12	35.00	193,054.20
881	BLK 06 LOT 02 & 04 SEC 12 PH I	T-691705/703	20.12	70.00	260,557.38
882	BLK 06 LOT 03 SEC 03 PH II	T-749394	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
883	BLK 06 LOT 03 SEC 10 PH I	T-691096	20.12	35.00	178,165.20
884	BLK 06 LOT 03 SEC 11 PH I	T-691390	20.12	35.00	181,733.32
885	BLK 06 LOT 05 & 07 SEC 04 PH I	T-690037/039	20.12	75.00	305,108.22
886	BLK 06 LOT 06 SEC 12 PH I	T-691707	20.12	35.00	163,281.79
887	BLK 06 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 02 PH I	T-689077/689079	20.12	95.00	372,440.32
888	BLK 06 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 13 PH I	T-691892/894	20.12	70.00	293,541.26
889	BLK 06 LOT 08 SEC 12 PH I	T-691709	20.12	35.00	186,371.88
890	BLK 06 LOT 10 SEC 01 PH I	T-688310	20.12	35.00	166,654.86
891	BLK 06 LOT 10 SEC 01 PH II	T-746023	20.12	35.00	166,159.62
892	BLK 06 LOT 10 SEC 07 PH I	T-690630	20.12	35.00	187,482.68
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894	BLK 06 LOT 12 SEC 03 PH I	T-689772	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
895	BLK 06 LOT 13 SEC 03 PH II	T-749404	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
896	BLK 06 LOT 13 SEC 14 PH I	T-692099	20.12	35.00	185,629.78
897	BLK 06 LOT 14 SEC 10 PH I	T-691107	20.12	35.00	160,348.68
898	BLK 06 LOT 15 SEC 07 PH I	T-690635	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
899	BLK 06 LOT 15 SEC 14 PH I	T-692101	20.12	35.00	186,975.06
900	BLK 06 LOT 17 SEC 03 PH I	T-689777	20.12	35.00	165,474.54
901	BLK 06 LOT 18 SEC 05 PH I	T-690334	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
902	BLK 06 LOT 19 SEC 13 PH I	T-691904	20.12	35.00	176,873.88
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904	BLK 06 LOT 23 SEC 05 PH II	T-749899	20.12	35.00	188,903.55
905	BLK 06 LOT 23 SEC 10 PH I	T-691116	20.12	35.00	170,964.75
906	BLK 06 LOT 24 SEC 05 PH II	T-749900	20.12	35.00	159,488.06
907	BLK 07 LOT 03 SEC 01 PH I	T-688318	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
908	BLK 07 LOT 05 SEC 04 PH II	T-749649	20.12	35.00	187,875.59
909	BLK 07 LOT 06 & 08 SEC 02 PH I	T-689087/089	20.12	85.00	343,028.57
910	BLK 07 LOT 06 & 08 SEC 10 PH I	T-691124/26	20.12	70.00	255,216.61
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912	BLK 07 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 02 PH I	T-689088/090	20.12	85.00	347,327.65
913	BLK 07 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 13 PH I	T-691923/691921	20.12	70.00	261,052.40
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915	BLK 07 LOT 07 SEC 04 PH II	T-749651	20.12	35.00	188,623.19
916	BLK 07 LOT 07 SEC 05 PH II	T-749911	20.12	35.00	187,297.89
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922	BLK 07 LOT 11 SEC 04 PH II	T-749655	20.12	35.00	186,784.61
923	BLK 07 LOT 11 SEC 13 PH I	T-691925	20.12	35.00	154,701.68
924	BLK 07 LOT 12 SEC 04 PH II	T-749656	20.12	35.00	162,336.63
925	BLK 07 LOT 13 SEC 03 PH I	T-689803	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
926	BLK 07 LOT 13 SEC 10 PH I	T-691131	20.12	35.00	157,680.23
927	BLK 07 LOT 13 SEC 12 PH I	T-691730	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
928	BLK 07 LOT 14 SEC 13 PH I	T-691928	20.12	35.00	188,121.96
929	BLK 07 LOT 15 SEC 03 PH I	T-689805	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
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931	BLK 07 LOT 16 SEC 04 PH I	T-690076	20.12	35.00	161,735.99
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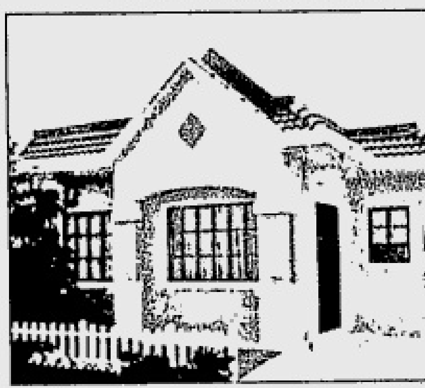

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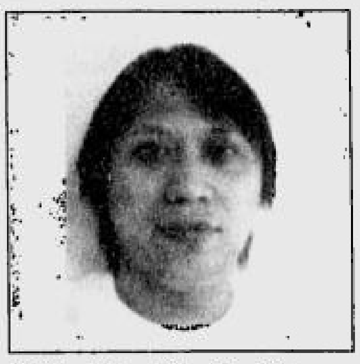

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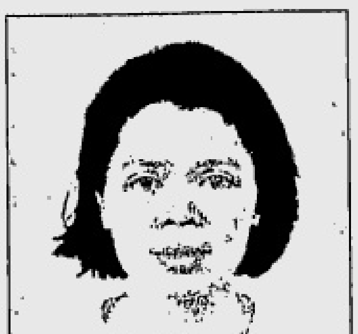

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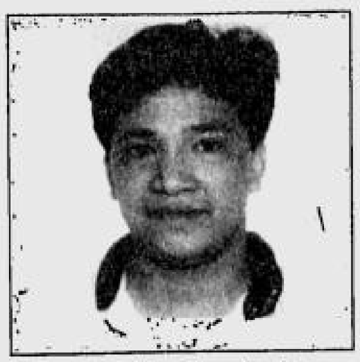


Mario S. Asis

This is to inform the general public that Mr. Ritchie S. Belibez, Ms. Lynette Basilio and Mr. Mario S. Asis whose pictures appear above respectively is no longer connected with EVERBEST GRAPHICS SYSTEMS INC., effective October 16, 2004. Any transaction entered into by any/or all of them for / and behalf of the company after said date shall not be honored.

(PDI–Dec. 3, 2004)

(From page B13)

	LOCATION OF PROPERTY	TCT NO	FLOOR AREA	LOT AREA	MINIMUM BID
934	BLK 07 LOT 19 SEC 03 PH I	T-689809	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
935	BLK 07 LOT 19 SEC 05 PH II	T-749923	20.12	35.00	171,274.78
936	BLK 07 LOT 19 SEC 12 PH I	T-691736	20.12	35.00	168,208.61
937	BLK 07 LOT 19 SEC 13 PH I	T-691933	20.12	35.00	185,629.78
938	BLK 07 LOT 20 SEC 03 PH I	T-689810	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
939	BLK 07 LOT 20 SEC 08 PH II	T-750713	20.12	35.00	164,029.78
940	BLK 07 LOT 21 & 23 SEC 06 PH II	T-750300/302	20.12	70.00	303,619.25
941	BLK 07 LOT 25 SEC 03 PH I	T-689815	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
942	BLK 07 LOT 25 SEC 04 PH II	T-749669	20.12	35.00	182,506.41
943	BLK 07 LOT 26 SEC 04 PH II	T-749670	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
944	BLK 07 LOT 27 & 29 SEC 13 PH I	T-691941/943	20.12	75.00	277,124.03
945	BLK 08 LOT 06 SEC 02 PH I	T-689110	20.12	35.00	170,420.72
946	BLK 08 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 04 PH I	T-690096/098	20.12	75.00	320,915.15
947	BLK 08 LOT 08 SEC 02 PH I	T-689112	20.12	35.00	170,420.72
948	BLK 08 LOT 09 SEC 02 PH I	T-689113	20.12	35.00	165,851.21
949	BLK 08 LOT 09 SEC 05 PH II	T-749941	20.12	35.00	169,897.52
950	BLK 08 LOT 10 & 12 SEC 04 PH I	T-690101/099	20.12	70.00	283,243.34
951	BLK 08 LOT 10 SEC 12 PH I	T-691751	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
952	BLK 08 LOT 11 SEC 04 PH I	T-690100	20.12	35.00	170,984.75
953	BLK 08 LOT 11 SEC 10 PH I	T-691154	20.12	35.00	157,680.23
954	BLK 08 LOT 12 SEC 02 PH I	T-689116	20.12	35.00	177,665.72
955	BLK 08 LOT 12 SEC 10 PH I	T-691155	20.12	35.00	206,908.12
956	BLK 08 LOT 13 SEC 01 PH II	T-746074	20.12	35.00	200,615.15
957	BLK 08 LOT 14 SEC 10 PH I	T-691157	20.12	35.00	206,885.53
958	BLK 08 LOT 14 SEC 12 PH I	T-691755	20.12	35.00	190,279.82
959	BLK 08 LOT 15 SEC 07 PH I	T-690654	20.12	35.00	185,807.26
960	BLK 08 LOT 16 SEC 03 PH I	T-689836	20.12	35.00	165,851.21
961	BLK 08 LOT 16 SEC 07 PH I	T-690655	20.12	35.00	166,654.86
962	BLK 08 LOT 18 SEC 03 PH I	T-689838	20.12	35.00	184,334.36
963	BLK 08 LOT 18 SEC 07 PH I	T-690657	20.12	35.00	164,521.76
964	BLK 08 LOT 20 SEC 03 PH I	T-68940	20.12	35.00	190,410.08
965	BLK 08 LOT 20 SEC 13 PH I	T-691963	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
966	BLK 08 LOT 21 SEC 05 PH I	T-690399	20.12	35.00	169,256.38
967	BLK 08 LOT 22 SEC 05 PH II	T-749954	20.12	35.00	183,101.10
968	BLK 08 LOT 22 SEC 12 PH I	T-691763	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
969	BLK 08 LOT 23 SEC 07 PH I	T-690662	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
970	BLK 08 LOT 25 SEC 07 PH I	T-690664	20.12	35.00	187,464.27
971	BLK 08 LOT 26 SEC 05 PH II	T-749958	20.12	35.00	188,784.61
972	BLK 08 LOT 29 SEC 04 PH II	T-749702	20.12	35.00	179,600.94
973	BLK 09 LOT 03 SEC 03 PH I	T-689853	20.12	35.00	184,334.36
974	BLK 09 LOT 03 SEC 05 PH I	T-690410	20.12	35.00	184,334.36
975	BLK 09 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 02 PH I	T-689126/128	20.12	85.00	343,208.12
976	BLK 09 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 04 PH I	T-690127/25	20.12	75.00	266,455.31
977	BLK 09 LOT 07 SEC 10 PH I	T-691173	20.12	35.00	176,024.32
978	BLK 09 LOT 08 SEC 10 PH I	T-691174	20.12	36.00	161,130.89
979	BLK 09 LOT 09 SEC 04 PH II	T-749712	20.12	35.00	185,326.93
980	BLK 09 LOT 10 SEC 02 PH I	T-689129	20.12	35.00	160,735.47
981	BLK 09 LOT 10 SEC 03 PH I	T-689860	20.12	35.00	162,798.45
982	BLK 09 LOT 11 SEC 02 PH I	T-689130	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
983	BLK 09 LOT 11 SEC 05 PH I	T-690418	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
984	BLK 09 LOT 12 SEC 04 PH I	T-690130	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
985	BLK 09 LOT 15 SEC 05 PH I	T-690422	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
986	BLK 09 LOT 17 SEC 05 PH I	T-690424	20.12	35.00	189,774.89
987	BLK 09 LOT 18 SEC 05 PH II	T-749978	20.12	35.00	154,701.68
988	BLK 09 LOT 18 SEC 07 PH I	T-690684	20.12	35.00	187,482.68
989	BLK 09 LOT 19 SEC 02 PH I	T-689138	20.12	35.00	197,268.28
990	BLK 09 LOT 19 SEC 03 PH I	T-689869	20.12	35.00	187,464.27
991	BLK 09 LOT 20 SEC 07 PH I	T-690686	20.12	35.00	170,797.40
992	BLK 09 LOT 21 SEC 05 PH I	T-690428	20.12	35.00	185,807.26
993	BLK 09 LOT 23 SEC 03 PH I	T-689873	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
994	BLK 09 LOT 23 SEC 04 PH I	T-690141	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
995	BLK 09 LOT 23 SEC 12 PH I	T-691792	20.12	35.00	167,176.54
996	BLK 09 LOT 24 SEC 04 PH I	T-690142	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
997	BLK 09 LOT 25 SEC 03 PH I	T-689875	20.12	38.00	185,172.07
998	BLK 09 LOT 25 SEC 12 PH I	T-691794	20.12	35.00	167,620.01
999	BLK 09 LOT 26 & 28 SEC 12 PH I	T-691797/795	20.12	75.00	311,312.99
1000	BLK 09 LOT 27 & 29 SEC 05 PH I	T-690436/434	20.12	75.00	317,915.90
1001	BLK 09 LOT 28 SEC 07 PH I	T-690694	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1002	BLK 09 LOT 31 SEC 07 PH I	T-690697	20.12	35.00	190,410.08
1003	BLK 09 LOT 32 SEC 05 PH II	T-749992	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
1004	BLK 09 LOT 33 SEC 07 PH I	T-690699	20.12	35.00	190,410.08
1005	BLK 10 LOT 03 SEC 03 PH I	T-689862	20.12	35.00	197,406.36
1006	BLK 10 LOT 06 & 08 SEC 07 PH I	T-690709/707	20.12	70.00	310,446.65
1007	BLK 10 LOT 06 SEC 01 PH I	T-688367	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1008	BLK 10 LOT 10 SEC 02 PH I	T-689152	20.12	35.00	165,561.24
1009	BLK 10 LOT 11 SEC 03 PH I	T-689890	20.12	35.00	177,122.07
1010	BLK 10 LOT 12 SEC 07 PH I	T-690713	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1011	BLK 10 LOT 13 SEC 02 PH I	T-689155	20.12	35.00	189,774.89
1012	BLK 10 LOT 17 SEC 03 PH I	T-689896	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1013	BLK 10 LOT 19 SEC 10 PH I	T-691197	20.12	35.00	176,165.20
1014	BLK 10 LOT 21 & 23 SEC 10 PH I	T-691199/201	20.12	70.00	292,266.05
1015	BLK 10 LOT 24 SEC 07 PH I	T-690725	20.12	35.00	177,122.07
1016	BLK 10 LOT 25 SEC 04 PH I	T-690172	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
1017	BLK 10 LOT 26 SEC 07 PH I	T-690727	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
1018	BLK 11 LOT 01 SEC 01 PH II	T-748154	20.12	35.00	173,218.64
1019	BLK 11 LOT 03 SEC 01 PH I	T-688378	20.12	36.00	178,686.93
1020	BLK 11 LOT 04 SEC 01 PH I	T-688379	20.12	36.00	188,817.26
1021	BLK 11 LOT 04 SEC 10 PH I	T-691206	20.12	40.00	205,355.31
1022	BLK 11 LOT 10 SEC 02 PH I	T-689171	20.12	35.00	185,807.26
1023	BLK 11 LOT 12 SEC 02 PH I	T-689173	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1024	BLK 11 LOT 12 SEC 03 PH I	T-689920	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1025	BLK 11 LOT 15 SEC 02 PH I	T-689176	20.12	35.00	197,185.42
1026	BLK 11 LOT 18 SEC 02 PH I	T-689179	20.12	35.00	170,797.40
1027	BLK 11 LOT 19 SEC 02 PH I	T-689180	20.12	35.00	164,521.76
1028	BLK 11 LOT 22 SEC 03 PH I	T-689930	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
1029	BLK 11 LOT 25 SEC 03 PH I	T-689933	20.12	35.00	184,334.36
1030	BLK 12 LOT 03 SEC 11 PH I	T-691455	20.12	35.00	158,119.43
1031	BLK 12 LOT 06 SEC 10 PH I	T-691224	20.12	35.00	180,280.58
1032	BLK 12 LOT 08 SEC 02 PH I	T-689192	20.12	35.00	189,774.89
1033	BLK 12 LOT 10 SEC 10 PH I	T-691228	20.12	35.00	164,029.78
1034	BLK 12 LOT 11 SEC 11 PH I	T-691163	20.12	35.00	176,024.32
1035	BLK 12 LOT 12 SEC 01 PH I	T-688394	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1036	BLK 12 LOT 12 SEC 02 PH I	T-689196	20.12	35.00	191,662.04
1037	BLK 12 LOT 13 SEC 02 PH I	T-689197	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
1038	BLK 12 LOT 14 SEC 01 PH I	T-688396	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1039	BLK 12 LOT 14 SEC 02 PH I	T-689198	20.12	35.00	160,735.47
1040	BLK 12 LOT 14 SEC 10 PH I	T-691232	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
1041	BLK 12 LOT 15 SEC 01 PH I	T-6688397	20.12	35.00	199,220.72
1042	BLK 12 LOT 18 SEC 01 PH I	T-688400	20.12	35.00	170,797.40
1043	BLK 12 LOT 18 SEC 02 PH I	T-689202	20.12	35.00	197,406.36
1044	BLK 12 LOT 18 SEC 10 PH I	T-691236	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
1045	BLK 12 LOT 22 SEC 01 PH I	T-688404	20.12	35.00	185,807.26
1046	BLK 12 LOT 23 SEC 01 PH I	T-688405	20.12	35.00	166,734.41
1047	BLK 12 LOT 24 SEC 01 PH I	T-688406	20.12	35.00	159,409.86
1048	BLK 12 LOT 28 SEC 01 PH I	T-688410	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1049	BLK 13 LOT 03 SEC 11 PH I	T-691470	20.12	35.00	160,409.84
1050	BLK 13 LOT 08 SEC 10 PH I	T-691258	20.12	35.00	165,395.03
1051	BLK 13 LOT 10 SEC 10 PH I	T-691260	20.12	35.00	165,746.74
1052	BLK 13 LOT 13 SEC 11 PH I	T-691480	20.12	35.00	161,113.28
1053	BLK 13 LOT 14 SEC 10 PH I	T-691264	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
1054	BLK 13 LOT 16 SEC 02 PH I	T-689223	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1055	BLK 13 LOT 16 SEC 10 PH I	T-691266	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
1056	BLK 13 LOT 19 SEC 02 PH I	T-689226	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1057	BLK 13 LOT 21 & 23 SEC 02 PH I	T-689228/230	20.12	70.00	367,913.85
1058	BLK 13 LOT 21 SEC 01 PH I	T-688436	20.12	35.00	169,239.81
1059	BLK 13 LOT 25 SEC 01 PH I	T-688440	20.12	35.00	185,807.26
1060	BLK 13 LOT 27 SEC 10 PH I	T-691277	20.12	35.00	153,080.74
1061	BLK 13 LOT 28 SEC 01 PH I	T-688443	20.12	35.00	187,482.68
1062	BLK 13 LOT 28 SEC 10 PH I	T-691278	20.12	35.00	178,751.39
1063	BLK 14 LOT 03 SEC 11 PH I	T-691487	20.12	35.00	180,841.29
1064	BLK 14 LOT 08 SEC 08 PH II	T-750891	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
1065	BLK 14 LOT 10 SEC 02 PH I	T-689240	20.12	35.00	170,420.72
1066	BLK 14 LOT 13 SEC 11 PH I	T-691497	20.12	35.00	164,029.78
1067	BLK 14 LOT 14 SEC 02 PH I	T-689244	20.12	35.00	189,369.84
1068	BLK 14 LOT 16 SEC 01 PH I	T-688464	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1069	BLK 14 LOT 19 SEC 08 PH II	T-750902	20.12	35.00	163,032.42
1070	BLK 14 LOT 20 SEC 01 PH I	T-688468	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1071	BLK 14 LOT 22 SEC 01 PH I	T-688470	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
1072	BLK 14 LOT 24 SEC 01 PH I	T-688472	20.12	35 00	165,561.24
1073	BLK 14 LOT 25 SEC 01 PH I	T-688473	20.12	35.00	185,807.26
1074	BLK 14 LOT 26 SEC 01 PH I	T-688474	20.12	35.00	170,221.88
1075	BLK 14 LOT 28 SEC 01 PH I	T-688476	20.12	35.00	147,515.62
1076	BLK 14 LOT 29 SEC 01 PH I	T-688477	20.12	35.00	185,807.26
1077	BLK 15 LOT 03 SEC 01 PH I	T-688484	20.12	35.00	165,499.39
1078	BLK 15 LOT 11 SEC 01 PH I	T-688492	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1079	BLK 15 LOT 17 SEC 01 PH I	T-688498	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
1080	BLK 15 LOT 18 SEC 11 PH I	T-691522	20.12	35.00	105,350.00
1081	BLK 15 LOT 19 SEC 01 PH I	T-688500	20.12	35.00	162,442.20
1082	BLK 15 LOT 21 SEC 01 PH I	T-688502	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
1083	BLK 15 LOT 22 SEC 01 PH I	T-688503	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1084	BLK 15 LOT 23 SEC 02 PH I	T-689280	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
1085	BLK 15 LOT 26 SEC 01 PH I	T-688507	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1086	BLK 15 LOT 27 SEC 01 PH I	T-688508	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1087	BLK 15 LOT 28 SEC 01 PH I	T-688509	20.12	35.00	166,654.86
1088	BLK 16 LOT 04 SEC 01 PH I	T-748268	20.12	35.00	161,113.28
1089	BLK 16 LOT 05 SEC 08 PH II	T-750944	20 12	35.00	184,061.09
1090	BLK 16 LOT 07 SEC 08 PH II	T-750946	20.12	35.00	190,254.34
1091	BLK 16 LOT 10 SEC 08 PH II	T-750949	20.12	35.00	183,848.71
1092	BLK 16 LOT 11 SEC 02 PH I	T-689297	20.12	35.00	182,255 32
1093	BLK 16 LOT 22 SEC 01 PH I	T-688536	20.12	35.00	190,410.08
1094	BLK 16 LOT 23 SEC 01 PH I	T-688537	20.12	35 00	175,906.93
1095	BLK 16 LOT 27 SEC 01 PH I	T-688541	20.12	35.00	165,681.24
1096	BLK 17 LOT 16 SEC 11 PH I	T-691548	20.12	35.00	168,124 64
1097	BLK 17 LOT 20 SEC 01 PH I	T-688567	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1098	BLK 17 LOT 21 SEC 01 PH I	T-688568	20.12	35.00	165,851.21
1099	BLK 17 LOT 27 SEC 01 PH I	T-688574	20.12	35.00	189,369 84
1100	BLK 17 LOT 28 SEC 01 PH I	T-688575	20.12	35.00	160,735.47
1101	BLK 18 LOT 03 SEC 08 PH II	T-751004	20.12	35.00	190,305 31
1102	BLK 18 LOT 06 SEC 08 PH II	T-751007	20.12	35 00	202,345.31
1103	BLK 18 LOT 07 SEC 08 PH II	T-751008	20.12	35.00	190,305.31

	LOCATION OF PROPERTY	TCT NO	FLOOR AREA	LOT AREA	MINIMUM BID
1104	BLK 18 LOT 12 SEC 01 PH I	T-688592	20.12	35.00	187,482.68
1105	BLK 18 LOT 19 SEC 01 PH I	T-688599	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1106	BLK 18 LOT 20 SEC 02 PH I	T-689336	20.12	35.00	176,899.36
1107	BLK 18 LOT 24 & 26 SEC 02 PH I	T-689342/689340	20.12	70.00	277,117.70
1108	BLK 18 LOT 28 SEC 01 PH I	T-688608	20.12	35.00	165,851.21
1109	BLK 18 LOT 29 SEC 01 PH I	T-688609	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1110	BLK 19 LOT 03 SEC 02 PH I	T-689346	20.12	35.00	183,262.51
1111	BLK 19 LOT 10 SEC 02 PH I	T-689353	20.12	35.00	176,534.05
1112	BLK 19 LOT 11 SEC 01 PH I	T-688624	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1113	BLK 19 LOT 17 SEC 08 PH II	T-751046	20.12	35.00	161,113.28
1114	BLK 19 LOT 21 SEC 02 PH I	T-689364	20.12	35.00	173,190.58
1115	BLK 19 LOT 25 SEC 02 PH I	T-689368	20.12	35.00	154,976.94
1116	BLK 20 LOT 11 SEC 01 PH I	T-688658	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1117	BLK 20 LOT 23 SEC 02 PH I	T-689397	20.12	35.00	168,132.29
1118	BLK 20 LOT 25 SEC 02 PH I	T-689399	20.12	35.00	183,262.51
1119	BLK 20 LOT 27 SEC 02 PH I	T-689401	20.12	35.00	183,295.77
1120	BLK 21 LOT 10 SEC 01 PH I	T-688689	20.12	35.00	165,851.21
1121	BLK 21 LOT 12 SEC 02 PH I	T-689419	20.12	35.00	183,593.84
1122	BLK 21 LOT 15 SEC 02 PH I	T-689422	20.12	35.00	190,279.82
1123	BLK 21 LOT 17 SEC 02 PH I	T-689424	20.12	35.00	184,834.19
1124	BLK 21 LOT 18 SEC 02 PH I	T-689425	20.12	35.00	168,292.85
1125	BLK 21 LOT 20 SEC 02 PH I	T-689427	20.12	35.00	154,701.68
1126	BLK 21 LOT 21 SEC 01 PH I	T-688700	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1127	BLK 21 LOT 22 SEC 02 PH I	T-689429	20.12	35.00	183,262.51
1128	BLK 21 LOT 23 SEC 01 PH I	T-688702	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1129	BLK 21 LOT 24 & 26 SEC 01 PH I	T-688705	20.12	35.00	351,813.86
1130	BLK 21 LOT 27 SEC 02 PH I	T-689434	20.12	35.00	159,679.22
1131	BLK 22 LOT 03 SEC 08 PH II	T-751122	20.12	35.00	181,733.32
1132	BLK 22 LOT 06 & 08 SEC 01 PH I	T-688720/718	20.12	70.00	266,600.50
1133	BLK 22 LOT 07 & 09 SEC 02 PH I	T-689449/447	20.12	75.00	305,108.22
1134	BLK 22 LOT 11 SEC 02 PH I	T-689451	20.12	35.00	156,620.83
1135	BLK 22 LOT 18 SEC 01 PH I	T-688730	20.12	35.00	171,319.36
1136	BLK 22 LOT 19 SEC 02 PH I	T-689459	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
1137	BLK 22 LOT 21 SEC 01 PH I	T-688733	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
1138	BLK 22 LOT 24 SEC 01 PH II	T-748417	20.12	35.00	160,348.68
1139	BLK 22 LOT 28 SEC 02 PH I	T-689468	20.12	35.00	158,983.43
1140	BLK 22 LOT 30 SEC 02 PH I	T-689470	20.12	35.00	183,262.51
1141	BLK 23 LOT 01 SEC 08 PH II	T-751148	20.12	35.00	180,463.64
1142	BLK 23 LOT 03 SEC 01 PH I	T-688748	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1143	BLK 23 LOT 03 SEC 08 PH II	T-751150	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
1144	BLK 23 LOT 07 SEC 11 PH I	T-691612	20.12	35.00	181,130.14
1145	BLK 23 LOT 08 SEC 11 PH I	T-691613	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
1146	BLK 23 LOT 11 SEC 02 PH I	T-689486	20.12	35.00	176,882.37
1147	BLK 23 LOT 14 SEC 01 PH I	T-688759	20.12	35.00	160,735.47
1148	BLK 23 LOT 15 SEC 01 PH I	T-688760	20.12	35.00	166,654.86
1149	BLK 23 LOT 16 SEC 02 PH I	T-689491	20.12	35.00	168,144.23
1150	BLK 23 LOT 20 SEC 02 PH I	T-689495	20.12	35.00	177,893.34
1151	BLK 23 LOT 23 SEC 02 PH I	T-689498	20.12	35.00	179,354.57
1152	BLK 23 LOT 25 SEC 02 PH I	T-689500	20.12	35.00	170,701.34
1153	BLK 23 LOT 27 SEC 01 PH I	T-688772	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1154	BLK 23 LOT 28 SEC 01 PH I	T-688773	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1155	BLK 23 LOT 29 SEC 01 PH I	T-688774	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1156	BLK 23 LOT 29 SEC 02 PH I	T-689504	20.12	35.00	176,882.37
1157	BLK 24 LOT 04 SEC 08 PH II	T-751179	20.12	35.00	190,305.31
1158	BLK 24 LOT 09 SEC 01 PH I	T-688787	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1159	BLK 24 LOT 11 SEC 01 PH I	T-688789	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1160	BLK 24 LOT 14 SEC 02 PH I	T-689524	20.12	35.00	182,255.31
1161	BLK 24 LOT 17 SEC 02 PH I	T-689527	20.12	35.00	189,897.52
1162	BLK 24 LOT 18 SEC 02 PH I	T-689528	20.12	35.00	151,329.81
1163	BLK 24 LOT 25 SEC 02 PH I	T-689535	20.12	35.00	179,014.75
1164	BLK 24 LOT 29 SEC 02 PH I	T-689539	20.12	35.00	179,014.75
1165	BLK 25 LOT 05 SEC 01 PH I	T-688798	20.12	35.00	165,851.21
1166	BLK 25 LOT 06 SEC 01 PH I	T-688799	20.12	35.00	165,851.21
1167	BLK 25 LOT 10 SEC 01 PH I	T-688803	20.12	35.00	182,861.46
1168	BLK 25 LOT 12 SEC 01 PH I	T-688805	20.12	35.00	185,172.07
1169	BLK 25 LOT 14 SEC 01 PH I	T-688807	20.12	35.00	162,442.20
1170	BLK 25 LOT 14 SEC 02 PH I	T-689561	20.12	35.00	168,144.23
1171	BLK 25 LOT 18 SEC 01 PH I	T-688811	20.12	35.00	159,409.86
1172	BLK 25 LOT 24 SEC 01 PH I	T-688817	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1173	BLK 25 LOT 26 SEC 02 PH I	T-689573	20.12	35.00	179,014.75
1174	BLK 25 LOT 30 SEC 02 PH I	T-689577	20.12	35.00	185,241.97
1175	BLK 25 LOT 31 SEC 02 PH I	T-689578	20.12	40.00	177,846.65
1176	BLK 26 LOT 04 SEC 08 PH II	T-751231	20.12	35.00	187,170.46
1177	BLK 26 LOT 09 SEC 01 PH I	T-688828	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1178	BLK 26 LOT 16 SEC 01 PH I	T-688835	20.12	35.00	189,356.36
1179	BLK 26 LOT 17 SEC 01 PH I	T-688836	20.12	35.00	169,476.23
1180	BLK 27 LOT 05 SEC 01 PH I	T-688844	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1181	BLK 27 LOT 09 SEC 01 PH I	T-688848	20.12	35.00	187,482.68
1182	BLK 27 LOT 10 SEC 01 PH I	T-688849	20.12	35.00	187,464.27
1183	BLK 27 LOT 11 SEC 01 PH I	T-688850	20.12	35.00	197,406.36
1184	BLK 27 LOT 16 SEC 01 PH I	T-688855	20.12	35.00	183,888.21
1185	BLK 27 LOT 18 SEC 01 PH I	T-688857	20.12	35.00	183,956.93
1186	BLK 28 LOT 06 SEC 01 PH I	T-688865	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1187	BLK 29 LOT 09 SEC 01 PH I	T-688878	20.12	35.00	175,906.93
1188	BLK 29 LOT 13 SEC 01 PH I	T-688882	20.12	35.00	177,122.07
1189	BLK 29 LOT 17 SEC 01 PH I	T-688886	20.12	35.00	159,409.86
1190	BLK 33 LOT 02 SEC 01 PH II	T-748631	20.12	35.00	176,600.88
1191	BLK 36 LOT 30 SEC 01 PH II	T-748773	20.12	35.00	187,867.70
1192	BLK 37 LOT 02 SEC 01 PH II	T-748775	20.12	35.00	193,282.60

CH TIERRA NEVADA
Bo. San Francisco Gen Trias Cavite

1193	BLK 15 LOT 16 PH I	T-980413	26.19	55.00	328,146.45
1194	BLK 30 LOT 22 PH I	T-987850	26.19	55.00	295,331.81

WINDWARD HILLS I
Bo. Burol Dasmarinas Cavite

1195	BLK 16 LOT 07	T-422171	24.00	70.00	366,608.87

LAGUNA AREA

CH-BERMUDA
Bo. Banlic Cabuyao Laguna

1196	BLK 08 LOT 10 PH 2B	T-379014	25.00	50.00	229,518.32

COUNTRY HOMES SUBD
Bo. Soro Soro Binan Laguna

1197	BLK 14 LOT 11	T-526581		108.00	282,268.80

MABUHAY CITY-CABUYAO
Bo. Mamatid Cabuyao Laguna

1198	BLK 03 LOT 10 PH I	T-418054	20.00	36.00	231,676.44
1199	BLK 142 LOT 76 PH II	T-451167	20.00	36.00	233,982.30
1200	BLK 154 LOT 32 PH 2	T-451531	25.00	63.00	363,763 62
1201	BLK 159 LOT 15 PH 2	T-451662	20.00	36.00	233,982.30
1202	BLK 169 LOT 14 PH 2	T-451961	20.00	36.00	232,621.72
1203	BLK 21 LOT 11	T-418509	20.00	36.00	231,676.04
1204	BLK 39 LOT 26 PH I	T-419551	20.00	36.00	200,253.02
1205	BLK 75 LOT 37 PH I	T-420462	20.00	36.00	201,299.22
1206	BLK 77 LOT 50	T-420595	20.00	36.00	229,901.27

PALO ALTO HIGHLANDS
Bo. Palo Alto Calamba Laguna

1207	BLK 05 LOT 13 PH 3A	T-374464	20.00	35.00	154,522.87

SOUTHERN HEIGHTS
Bo. San Vicente San Pedro Laguna
Bo. San Antonio San Pedro Laguna

1208	BLK 12 LOT 03 PH II	T-391007	20.12	35.00	166,094.83
1209	BLK 22 LOT 24 & 26 PH II	T-360682/684	20.12	70.00	271,166.08
1210	BLK 31 LOT 34 & 36 PH II	361043/41	20.12	80.00	299,456.08
1211	BLK 36 LOT 26 PH II	T-361185	20.12	35.00	166,094.83
1212	BLK 36 LOT 42 PH II	T-361201	20.12	35.00	164,448.38
1213	BLK 41 LOT 26 PH II	T-361480	20.12	35.00	166,094.83

ST JOSEPH VILLAGE
Bo. Mamatid Cabuyao Laguna

1214	BLK 03 LOT 13 PH 3	T-363911	20.00	40.00	199,145.43

TOWN AND COUNTRY
Bo. Calaboso Binan Laguna

1215	BLK 07 LOT 04	T-626582	0.00	108.00	388,800.00

METRO MANILA AREA

SMILE CITIHOMES
Bo. Kaligayahan Novaliches Q.C

1216	BLDG B CLUSTER 1 UNIT 2-3	N-12456	30.00	0.00	344,939.58
1217	BLDG B CLUSTER 1 UNIT P-1	N-12472	30.00	0.00	310,263.00
1218	BLDG B CLUSTER 1 UNIT P-3	N-12474	30.00	0.00	310,263.00
1219	BLDG C CLUSTER 1 UNIT 3-1	N-12576	30.00	0.00	295,652.70
1220	BLDG C CLUSTER 2 UNIT 2-6	N-12605	30.00	0.00	344,939.58
1221	BLDG C CLUSTER 3 UNIT 3-4	N-12638	30.00	0.00	295,652.70
1222	BLDG C CLUSTER 4 UNIT 2-1	N-12658	30.00	0.00	344,939.58
1223	BLDG C CLUSTER 4 UNIT 2-4	N-12661	30.00	0.00	344,939.58
1224	BLDG C CLUSTER 4 UNIT P-4	N-12679	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1225	BLDG D CLUSTER 1 UNIT 2-2	N-12688	30.00	0.00	383,266.20
1226	BLDG D CLUSTER 4 UNIT 3-6	N-12828	30.00	0.00	295,652.70
1227	BLDG E CLUSTER 2 UNIT P-3	N-12895	30.00	0.00	310,263.00
1228	BLDG E CLUSTER 2 UNIT P-4	N-12896	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1229	BLDG F CLUSTER 1 UNIT 3-3	N-12912	30.00	0.00	295,652.70
1230	BLDG F CLUSTER 2 UNIT 2-6	N-12989	30.00	0.00	344,939.58
1231	BLDG F CLUSTER 2 UNIT 4-4	N-12996	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1232	BLDG F CLUSTER 2 UNIT 4-5	N-12997	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1233	BLDG F CLUSTER 4 UNIT 2-3	CCT-13041	30.00	0.00	344,939.58
1234	BLDG G CLUSTER 1 UNIT 3-2	N-13076	30.00	0.00	295,652.70
1235	BLDG G CLUSTER 3 UNIT 3-1	N-13132	30.00	0.00	295,652.70
1236	BLDG G CLUSTER 3 UNIT P-2	N-13145	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1237	BLDG G CLUSTER 4 UNIT P-4	N-13178	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1238	BLDG G CLUSTER 5 UNIT 2-6	N-13190	30.00	0.00	344,939.58
1239	BLDG G CLUSTER 5 UNIT 3-3	N-13193	30.00	0.00	295,652.70

	LOCATION OF PROPERTY	TCT NO	FLOOR AREA	LOT AREA	MINIMUM BID
1240	BLDG G CLUSTER 5 UNIT 4-3	N-13199	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1241	BLDG G CLUSTER 5 UNIT P-3	N-13205	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1242	BLDG G CLUSTER I UNIT 3-6	N-13079	30.00	0.00	295,652.70
1243	BLDG H CLUSTER 1 UNIT P-2	N-13233	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1244	BLDG H CLUSTER 2 UNIT 4-4	N-13268	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1245	BLDG H CLUSTER 3 UNIT 4-3	N-13286	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1246	BLDG H CLUSTER 3 UNIT G-6	N-13271	30.00	0.00	394,216.74
1247	BLDG H CLUSTER 5 UNIT G-2	N-13326	30.00	0.00	394,216.74
1248	BLDG H CLUSTER 6 UNIT 2-5	N-13363	30.00	0.00	344,939.58
1249	BLDG H CLUSTER 6 UNIT 2-6	N-13364	30.00	0.00	344,939.58
1250	BLDG H CLUSTER 6 UNIT P-3	N-13379	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1251	BLDG I CLUSTER 2 UNIT 3-3	N-13432	30.00	0.00	295,652.70
1252	BLDG I CLUSTER 2 UNIT 3-4	N-13433	30.00	0.00	295,652.70
1253	BLDG I CLUSTER 3 UNIT G-2	N-13449	30.00	0.00	394,216.74
1254	BLDG J CLUSTER 1 UNIT 2-4	N-13485	30.00	0.00	344,939.58
1255	BLDG J CLUSTER 2 UNIT 2-2	N-13512	30.00	0.00	344,939.58
1256	BLDG J CLUSTER 2 UNIT P-3	N-13531	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1257	BLDG J CLUSTER 3 UNIT 2-4	N-13543	30.00	0.00	344,939.58
1258	BLDG K CLUSTER 1 UNIT 3-3	N-13577	30.00	0.00	295,652.70
1259	BLDG K CLUSTER 1 UNIT P-6	N-13592	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1260	BLDG K CLUSTER 2 UNIT 2-4	N-13601	30.00	0.00	344,939.94
1261	BLDG K CLUSTER 2 UNIT 2-5	N-13602	30.00	0.00	344,939.94
1262	BLDG K CLUSTER 3 UNIT 2-3	N-13629	30.00	0.00	344,939.58
1263	BLDG K CLUSTER 3 UNIT 3-1	N-13633	30.00	0.00	295,652.70
1264	BLDG K CLUSTER 3 UNIT 3-6	N-13638	30.00	0.00	295,652.70
1265	BLDG K CLUSTER 4 UNIT 4-4	N-13671	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1266	BLDG M CLUSTER 1 UNIT P-1	N-13790	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1267	BLDG M CLUSTER 2 UNIT P-2	N-13820	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1268	BLDG N CLUSTER 1 UNIT 2-6	N-13835	30.00	0.00	344,939.58
1269	BLDG N CLUSTER 2 UNIT 3-4	N-13810	30.00	0.00	328,503.00
1270	BLDG N CLUSTER 2 UNIT 5-3	N-13879	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1271	BLDG N CLUSTER 2 UNIT P-1	N-13877	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1272	BLDG N CLUSTER 2 UNIT P-5	N-13881	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1273	BLDG N CLUSTER 2 UNIT P-6	N-13882	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1274	BLDG N CLUSTER 3 UNIT P-6	N-13914	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1275	BLDG O CLUSTER 1 UNIT 2-1	N-13920	30.00	0.00	383,266.20
1276	BLDG O CLUSTER 1 UNIT P-3	N-13940	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1277	BLDG O CLUSTER 2 UNIT 4-6	N-13966	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1278	BLDG O CLUSTER 2 UNIT P-4	N-13970	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1279	BLDG O CLUSTER 3 UNIT 5-3	N-14001	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1280	BLDG O CLUSTER 3 UNIT G-6	N-13977	30.00	0.00	394,216.74
1281	BLDG O CLUSTER 3 UNIT P-2	N-14000	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1282	BLDG O CLUSTER 3 UNIT P-4	N-14002	30.00	0.00	279,236.70
1283	BLDG O CLUSTER 4 UNIT 4-4	N-14025	30.00	0.00	310,263.00
1284	BLDG P CLUSTER 2 UNIT G-4	N-14065	30.00	0.00	394,216.74

RIZAL AREA

CARISSA HOMES EAST
Bo. Dalig & Prinza Teresa Rizal

1285	BLK 12 LOT 17 PH II	M-110150	20.62	63.00	216,559.96
1286	BLK 21 LOT 11 PH I	M-117096	18.00	32.00	154,566.70
1287	BLK 23 LOT 38 PH II	M-117090	20.00	42.00	159,247.17
1288	BLK 23 LOT 43 PH II	M-117091	20.00	42.00	159,247.17
1289	BLK 43 LOT 06 PH II	M-80092	18.00	34.00	174,657.60
1290	BLK 43 LOT 21 PH I	M-117093	18.00	32.00	169,392.00
1291	BLK 43 LOT 29 PH I	M-117092	18.00	32.00	154,566.70
1292	BLK 50 LOT 23 PH I	M-117086	18.00	45.00	187,638.70
1293	BLK 52 LOT 05 PH I	M-117084	18.00	32.00	169,392.00
1294	BLK 52 LOT 22 PH I	M-117087	18.00	32.00	154,566.70
1295	BLK 54 LOT 05 PH I	M-117081	18.00	32.00	154,566.70
1296	BLK 54 LOT 09 PH I	M-117083	18.00	32.00	154,566.70
1297	BLK 55 LOT 16 PH I	M-97540	18.00	32.00	173,361.60
1298	BLK 57 LOT 13 PH I	M-117085	18.00	45.00	187,638.70
1299	BLK 62 LOT 15 PH I	M-97539	18.00	32.00	173,361.60
1300	BLK 62B LOT 07 PH I	M-117099	18.00	45.00	187,638.70
1301	BLK 64 LOT 14 PH II	M-118388	18.00	32.00	171,573.36
1302	BLK 66 LOT 18 PH IIA	M-117098	18.00	32.00	139,340.43
1303	BLK 71 LOT 11 PH I	M-117080	18.00	45.00	187,638.70
1304	BLK 74 LOT 20 PH I	M-103182	20.00	32.00	173,361.60
1305	BLK 75 LOT 09 PH I	M-117082	18.00	32.00	154,566.70
1306	BLK 77 LOT 07 PH I	M-117088	18.00	32.00	154,566.70
1307	BLK 84 LOT 22 PH II	M-117097	18.00	32.00	139,340.43
1308	BLK 85 LOT 14 PH II	M-118389	18.00	43.00	205,893.36

MBH 2000-DARANGAN
Bo. Daranga Binangonan Rizal

1309	BLK 11 LOT 07 PH 2B	M-68977	30.00	70.00	305,784.31
1310	BLK 120 LOT 04 PH 3A	M-56676	25.00	43.00	205,997.74
1311	BLK 29 LOT 05 PH IB	M-69471	25.00	43.00	205,997.74
1312	BLK 55 LOT 20 PH 2A	M-60084	25.00	43.00	217,013.58
1313	BLK 59 LOT 20 PH 2A	M-64710	0.00	64.00	151,808.00
1314	BLK 67 LOT 08 PH 2A	M-64792	25.00	43.00	205,997.74
1315	BLK 90 LOT 31 PH 3A	M-66060	25.00	43.00	191,655.90
1316	BLK 91 LOT 04 PH 3A	M-66071	25.00	43.00	198,553.26
1317	BLK 91 LOT 14 PH 3A	M-66081	25.00	43.00	201,567.27

NEW SAN MATEO
Bo. Guitnang Bayan San Mateo Rizal

1318	BLK 05 LOT 39 PH V	287633	30.00	36.00	273,914.33
1319	BLK 06 LOT 19 PH V	287654	30.00	36.00	278,370.00
1320	BLK 06 LOT 66 PH V	T-287701	30.00	36.00	278,370.00
1321	BLK 06 LOT 27 PH V	287662	30.00	36.00	265,173.75
1322	BLK 06 LOT 64 PH V	T-287699	30.00	36.00	278,370.00

VILLAGE EAST
Sto Domingo Cainta Rizal

1323	BLK 31 LOT 07	T-627582	0.00	260.00	884,000.00

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1 Interested parties are required to secure copies of : (a) INSTRUCTION TO BIDDERS and (b) BID FORMS from the Acquired Asset Management, 8th Flr Pacific Center Bldg. San Miguel Avenue Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

2 Sealed proposal in triplicate shall be received at the Acquired Asset Management, 8th Flr Pacific Center Bldg., San Miguel Avenue Ortigas, Pasig City starting 8:00 a.m. not later than 2:00 p.m immediately afterwhich, the said proposals shall be opened in the presence of attending bidders.

3 Each bid proposal shall be accompanied by a DEPOSIT in CASH or CERTIFIED CASHIER'S/ MANAGER'S CHECK issued in Metro Manila, payable to the Pag-IBIG FUND in an amount equivalent to at least TEN PERCENT (10%) of the total bid price.

4 Properties shall be sold on an "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and the winning bidder shall take the possession of the property without seeking assistance from Pag-IBIG FUND.

5 All bidders are advised to visit/inspect the properties for bidding before posting their bid proposals.

6 If the bidder who submitted the best offer refuses to push through with the purchase of the property for which he / she BIDDED during and after the bidding, his/her deposit shall be FORFEITED and failure of bidding shall be declared.

7 All awards by the Bidding Committee shall be subject to the approval / confirmation of the VP-NCR Housing Operations, North Sector / Manager - Acquired Asset Management, North Sector.

HDMF RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY INFORMA LITY THEREIN OR ACCEPT SUCH BIDS AS MAY BE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE FUND. THE DECISION OF THE FUND IS FINAL AND BINDING.

ACQUIRED ASSET MANAGEMENT
Tel No. 634-8344 / 634-8391 / 6375431

(PDI-Dec. 3, 2004)

MALAYSIAN investors talk as they monitor share prices at a trading gallery in Kuala Lumpur. Malaysia's benchmark share index hit a 4-1/2-year high on Thursday, helped by a rally on Wall Street and a sharp drop in oil prices. REUTERS

GM, Ford cut production

DETROIT—General Motors Corp. and Ford Motor Co. said on Wednesday they will cut production more than expected after weaker US sales in November, which analysts said could hurt profits.

Even as they rolled out more lucrative incentives this year, GM and Ford struggled with growing inventories of unsold vehicles as sales of their aging car lineups slipped and consumer tastes shifted from their stable of large sport utility vehicles.

The Chrysler side of DaimlerChrysler and many of the larger foreign automakers such as Toyota Motor Corp., Nissan Motor Co. Ltd. and Honda Motor Co. Ltd. reported stronger November sales.

"I think it will produce lower year-to-year earnings in the first quarter," said Burnham Securities analyst David Healy, referring to the GM and Ford production cuts.

"For every unit they cut out of their production schedule, there goes $4,000 to $4,500 out of pretax earnings—and that's going to be hard to make up elsewhere."

Wall Street closely watches vehicle production because automakers count earnings from cars and trucks when they are manufactured and shipped to dealers, rather than when they are sold off dealer lots.

GM, the world's largest automaker, said it expects to manufacture 95,000 fewer vehicles in North America in the first quarter next year, down about 7.1 percent from the first quarter this year.

Analysts had generally expected GM to cut production by around 6 percent.

GM's US sales, excluding its Saab brand and some medium- and heavy-duty trucks, fell 13 percent in November to 297,355 cars and trucks.

Consumers may have postponed purchases until December, when GM and other automakers traditionally launch year-end incentives, analysts said.

All sales results are adjusted for an extra selling day in November last year.

Ford, the second-largest US automaker, said it expects vehicle production in North America during the first quarter next year to fall by 78,000 cars and trucks, or nearly 8 percent.

Analysts had expected Ford to cut production about 5 or 6 percent.

"The slightly softer-than-expected production (cut) will weigh on the stock in the near-term, but we think the market will be reassured by what looks like healthy new model momentum at Ford's passenger car business," JP Morgan analyst Himanshu Patel said in a research note, referring to Ford's recent car launches. *Reuters*

WIN A FREE FORD LYNX OR ESCAPE

How would you like to win a free Ford Lynx or Escape?

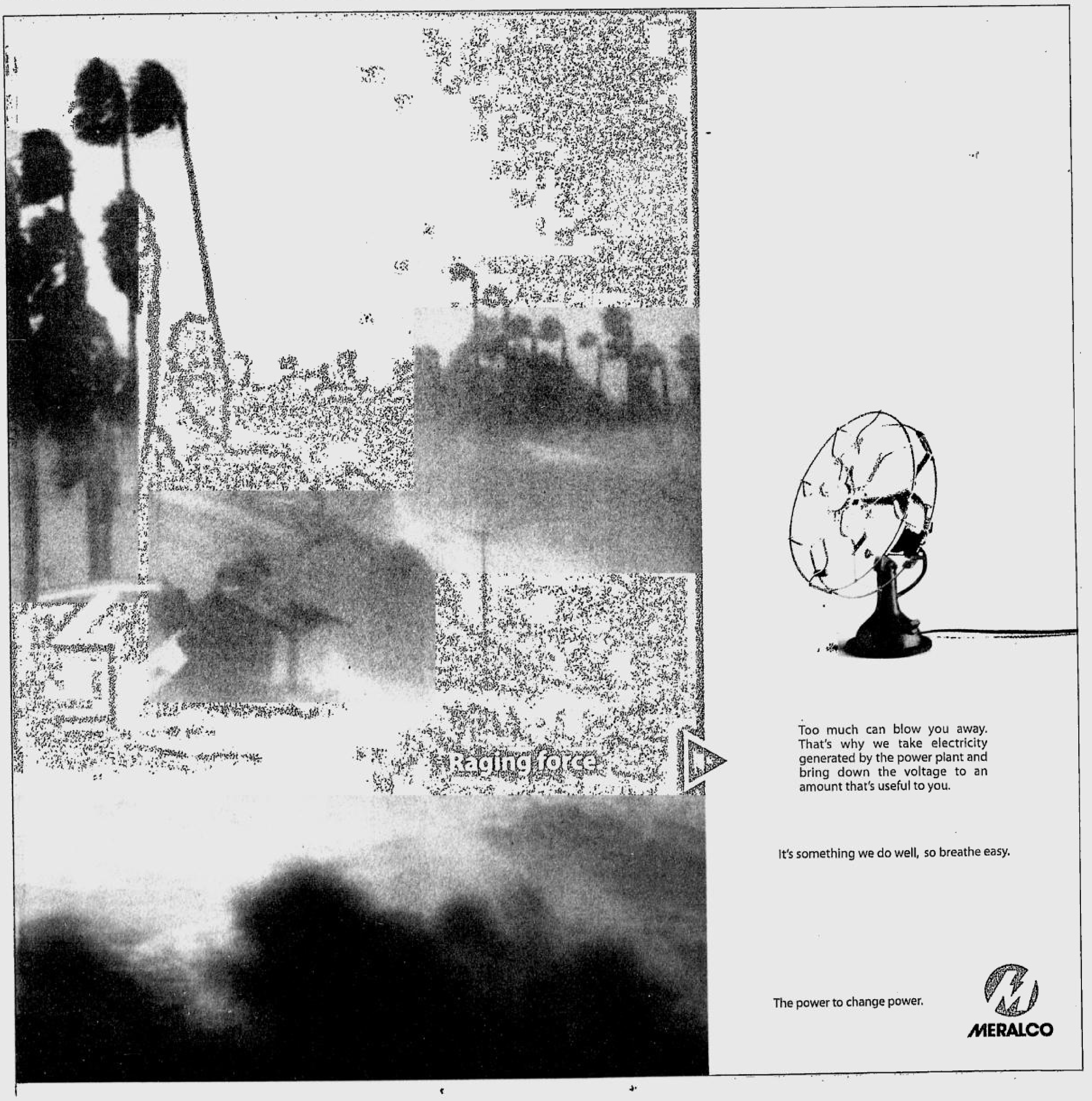
Ford Group Philippines is celebrating the holidays with you by offering a special promo on both the Ford Lynx and Escape. Every Lynx or Escape that you purchase between December 1 to December 31 entitles you to a certain number of affle coupons. These coupons could make you a winner of the car you bought-making your initial purchases free!

Buying a Ford Lynx GSI entitles you to three (3) raffle coupons, the Lynx Ghia-five (5) coupons and the Lynx RS gives you (8) coupons. There 's More! Purchasing the Ford Escape 2.3L is equivalent to (10) coupons and the Escape 3.0L corresponds to (15) coupons.

"Plus, you can also finance purchases on an Escape and Lynx! On Escape 2.3L and a Lynx Ghia you have a 0% interest 50% downpayment, 1-year term and a low DP plan on the Lynx Gsi."

These great Ford deals are available at any of the Ford dealerships: Ford Alabang, Ford Balintawak, Ford Commonwealth, Ford EDSA, Ford Libis, Ford Makati, Ford Manila, Ford Quezon Avenue, Ford Shaw Blvd., Ford Bacolod, Ford Cabanatuan, Ford Cagayan de Oro, Ford Cavite, Ford Cebu, Ford Dagupan, Ford Davao, Ford Iloilo, Ford Pampanga, Ford San Pablo.

DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 5958 SERIES OF 2004 ADVT.



Too much can blow you away. That's why we take electricity generated by the power plant and bring down the voltage to an amount that's useful to you.

It's something we do well, so breathe easy.

The power to change power.

MERALCO

Sunnex is traveling chef's constant companion

WHENEVER cooking expert Dorothy Ferreria brings culinary teaching outside the classroom, her favorite brand Sunnex is there to lend a hand. Both Dorothy and Sunnex are innovators in a very competitive, creative industry, and the two likewise share a commitment to make the culinary arts more accessible to a wider audience. Among many pioneering efforts, Sunnex is first to distribute the copper sandwich bottom cookware, a technology that ensures even and rapid heat distribution, in the mass-market level. Dorothy, on the other hand, has embarked on a new culinary challenge by bringing culinary instruction outside the Manila-based classroom, closer to where people are.

Dorothy started as a guest demonstrator for the Maya Kitchens and in April 1990, opened her very own "Dorothy's Cooking School". The school in Manila became so successful that cooking enthusiasts in the provinces wanted so much to participate but could not as they were often faced with accessibility and funding problems. Dorothy recognized that there was a niche to fill -- the need to conduct affordable culinary classes in various areas nationwide. She then established the Traveling Cooking School in the Philippines, a cooking school on tour that offers culinary classes at very affordable rates. The traveling chef prefers Sunnex over other brands because "it is thick-gauged, which means that food will be cooked properly whereas a thin cookware can cause ingredients to cook at a faster rate, at the risk of browning too fast." Dorothy uses Sunnex in her cooking school tours because she believes in the product. "I use it in my classes for students to see and experience the difference Sunnex makes in cooking."

The traveling school is busy with scheduled demonstrations in key cities in Luzon and Visayas, and has been partnering with local organizations and companies to get to as many cooking aficionados as possible. When creating divine dishes in her own kitchen, in her classroom or during a traveling cooking class, Dorothy Ferreria relies on Sunnex, her constant culinary companion. Economical, durable and convenient to use, Sunnex products passed strict global sanitation standards and has been certified by the one of the world's most respected certification providers, the National Sanitation Foundation International. Sunnex is available in leading department stores nationwide.

EPLDT, ARELLANO UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE

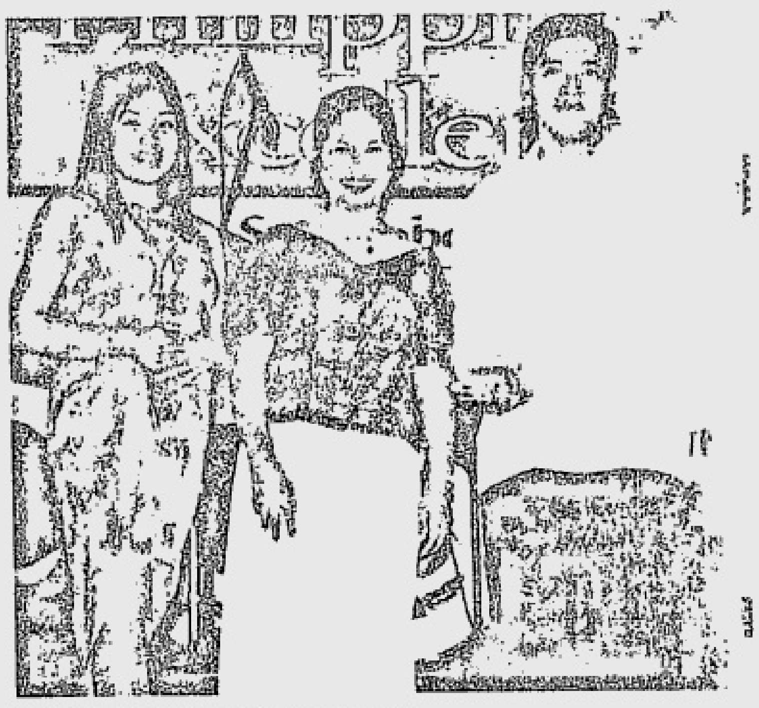
ePLDT, the information and communication technology arm of the PLDT Group, through its Parlance and Vocativ Call Centers, recently forged an alliance with Arellano University on the implementation of a customer service representative training program for Arellano University's selected fourth year college students. This course focuses on call center fundamentals to equip students with the skills for prospective employment in ePLDT's call centers as CSRs. At the contract signing are (seated from left): Rosalie R. Montenegro, PLDT senior vice president for call center business group and concurrent dent of Parlance and Vocativ Call Centers; Dr. Fr cisco P. V. Cayco, Arellano University chair of the board and CEO; Estelita G. Gonzalez, PLDT sen manager for call center business group; Dr. Tere N. Rivera, Arellano University dean of Institute Arts; Marigrace M. Lapitan, PLDT AVP and con head for recruitment, placement and testing; Mildred A. Atendido, Arellano University VP for Academics and Mario F. Sales, Arellano University de for Institute of Business Administration

CUP CITES PHILIPS FOR TOP HOME VIDEO ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM

Philips Consumer Electronics, Europe's no. 1 consumer electronics company, recently received the award for 'Outstanding Home Video Entertainment System' from the Consumers Union of the Philippines (CUP) at the 15th Annual National Consumers Awards (Anca). CUP is a non-profit organization that aims to help and protect consumers from all forms of unfair trade practices and has initiated Anca to honor private and public firms that have served well through quality consumer services and excellent product lines in the country. Photo shows (from left) CUP president lawyer Quirino Marquinez; Philips audio-video product manager Ria Nuñez; CUP secretary general Lily Nicholas; Bishop Sonia Lim; Philips connected displays product manager Mark Sta. Maria during the awarding ceremony.

Dream Satellite TV joins pilot DepEd project

DREAM Satellite TV, the country's first and only satellite TV broadcasting company recently joined the Department of Education and other socially conscious private corporations in the Text2Teach project. Text2Teach is part of a global program called Bridgeit, which provides teachers, youth workers and other youth-serving professionals with wireless technological tools to supplement traditional teaching practices. The program integrates mobile phone communications with digital satellite broadcasting and digital recording technology to transmit video materials directly to classrooms for the use of teachers in teaching science. First, the teacher orders the video materials through SMS or text messaging on a mobile phone. The materials are then directly transmitted via satellite to the pilot schools. And finally, the video materials are digitally recorded for the use of science teachers in their classes. The program was made to specifically focus on science subject teachers and students in the grade 5 and 6 levels. So far, 12 pilot schools have been initially targeted. Through the program, the proponents are aiming to enhance the basic education learning in science; to train science teachers, school heads and school division supervisors; develop a blue print model to deliver digital content to science classes in the Philippines; test the viability and tenacity of the model and collate data that would guide and sustain the use and delivery of digital educational content.



NUMBER ONE PIZZA CHAIN

Shakey's receives the Philippine Business Excellence Award for being the No. 1 pizza chain from the Awards and Recognition Association of the Philippines as it salutes outstanding companies who have significant contributions to the empowerment of Filipino consumers. This award is based on consumer assessment through research on company reputation, brand recognition, product quality, and cons services. Shown receiving the award is operations manager Arnel Illana (holding award). Shakey's continues to give you great food, great service, great value, great vice because Nothing Shakes like Shakey's. For those who would rather stay in than eat out, a Shakey's meal is just a phone call away, just dial 533-8000.

Imation's new 16x DVD+r media

IMATION Corp, a worldwide leader in removable data storage media, announced the addition of 4.7GB 16x DVD+R discs to its broad portfolio of optical media products. With Imation's new 16x DVD+R media, consumers and business users can record a disc to full capacity in about 5 minutes - nearly half the time required to fill a current 8X DVD+R disc. Paired with new high-speed 16x DVD drives on the market today, users will save time recording videos, photos, data and other digital information at the fastest recording speeds available. Users can store large-capacity video and computer files with Imation's new 16x DVD+R media-transferring up to two hours of VHS movies, saving thousands of digital photos, or backing up gigabytes of data, in about five minutes with a 16x DVD burner. The new media can be played back in any DVD player or DVD drive.

"Demand is being fueled by escalating adoption of DVD video applications and strong growth in DVR/DVD set-top boxes. Users want high-quality discs with the fastest burning capabilities possible," said Nancy Tan, Managing Director of Imation South Asia Region. Imation's new 16x DVD+R discs makes it easy for consumers to permanently capture all their digital information - whether video, photo, music or data file - with speed and quality that is unsurpassed in the industry today." Tan stressed. Imation 16x DVD+R discs will be available in jewel case and spindle packs. For more information on Imation's complete line of DVD media, go to: www.imation-southasia.com.

Clips

Chowking's Christmas album

CHOWKING has a special present for its customers this Christmas. The fast food chain announced that it is giving away a Christmas compact disc to lucky customers. The album, titled "Chowking Acoustic Christmas Carols", is a collection of all Christmas songs and carols all specially performed and recorded in the popular acoustic arrangement for Chowking. To avail themselves of a free copy, customers can present his Chowking receipt to the counter and he will immediately be given a chance to draw the winning stub containing the message "Congratulations, you've won a Chowking Acoustic Christmas Carols CD." Aside from the CD, a Christmas songbook with a 2005 calendar will also be given away. No minimum amount is required. The promo runs until today, Dec. 3, only.

'Delightful December'

"PACO Park Presents" opens its "Delightful December" with baritone Jesus Emmanuel Baang and pianist Adrian Semacio today, Dec. 3, starting at 6 p.m. at historic Paco Park in San Marcelino, Manila. Thea Perez hosts this regular project of the National Parks Development Committee under the helm of executive director Carlito S. Fajardo. "Paco Park Presents is regularly aired on Channel 4 every Tuesday at 6 p.m. Morris Paredes directs for TV from a script by Gic V. Arnold. Admission to "Paco Park Presents" is free of charge.

Gift ideas from EK

ENCHANTED Kingdom, the country's only world-class theme park, offers unique and enjoyable corporate Christmas gifts to business partners and employees. The Enchanted Kingdom Gift Bundle includes an EK Day Pass, P150 worth of Wizard Money, and P200 worth of EK cash coupons. This innovative packages makes sure that all bases are covered-from ticket to food to discounts, and possibly even the purchase of some magical EK merchandise. The Gift Bundle is an P850 value, specially priced at only P600, with further discounts on bulk purchases of EK Gift Bundles for corporate clients. Aside from the Gift Bundle, EK also offers a variety of other admission schemes such as the Wizard Treat and Carousel Special. For inquiries on ticket purchases and park schedules, call 843-6070 to 78, 830-2111 to 16 or log on to www.enchantedkingdom.com.ph for details.

Padre Pio's healing services

EVERYONE is invited to experienc the healing love of Christ during t Eucharistic Celebration and Heali Services on Friday, Dec. 3, at 7 p at the multi-purpose hall of the Publishing Compound, Simon Street, Sta. Mesa Heights, Que City. The Eucharistic Celebration Healing Services will be preside Fr. John Iacono, a very anointe healing priest. During the healin services, the actual gloves of th modern day saint, Padre Pio, will exposed. Padre Pio is known for miraculous healings performed ing his lifetime. The event is organized and sponsored by the Ser vants of the Good Shepherd, member of the Federation of Transparochial Catholic Charism Communities.

VENTURE 7 CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Recently, Venture 7 had an early Christmas bazaar in October at the Grand Ballroom of Hotel Intercontinental in Makati. Luli M. Arroyo, eldest daughter of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, and Baby Arenas, civic leader and philanthropist, were the guests of honor. Upon cutting the ceremonial ribbon at 8:30 a.m., many shoppers came in to do their early Christmas shopping, with an array of unique export and imported items and food. Those seven ladies, Celine Bautista (president), Fanny Blanco (chair), Linda Villadelgado, Lita Gelano, Consul Fortune Ledesma, Pilie Aquino and Chit Gohu, the persons behind the past successful Christmas Bazaar projects, are truly dynamic women. They are encouraged by their successes to plan continuously one after another projects to help charities of their choice, such as the Mahaveer Foundation Inc and the Makabata Foundation. See them again on Dec. 5 at the same time and venue. For more details, call 843-9507, 372-3083, 372-3084 or 810-3307.

Dumex signs Donita as website hos

DUMEX, a leading milk company across Asia and headquartered in Singapore, has brought popular TV personality Donita Rose to live as a virtual host on the company's Youngnutrition.net website (www.youngnutrition.net). Youngnutrition.net has been providing Asian parents with free expert advice and information on growing healthy and bright babies since 2001.

Dumex chose Donita as the virtual host for the website because as a new first time mother, she reflects the joy and zeal of motherhood. In addition, Donita is also well known to a new generation of young mothers across Southeast Asia because of her stint as a popular VJ on MTV Asia. In her home country, the Philippines, Donita is also a popular cho endorser of reputable consun branded items because of wholesome image and vibr personality. Dumex is happy t closely associated with Don during this special period in life as a new mother of a boy. As a virtual host, Donita be viewed and heard in vario snippets throughout the websi introducing and explaining k content highlights, contests an expert services on nutrition. Sh can also be seen recommending brand new Baby Developing checklist, which is simple to yet provide informative informa tion function that allows ne mothers to track and monit their babies' development ov the first 12 months.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Eastwood City

The Star of the Season

Paskonsiyerto

AT CENTRAL PLAZA

Dec. 4 (Sat.), 8 PM

Paskuhang Pilipino

Relive the country's Christmas pastoral traditions in a theater-style performance featuring:

Nolyn Cabahug
Ayen Munji
Ramon Obusan Folkloric Group
Philippine Symphonic Band

Dec. 11 (Sat.), 8 PM

Paskopella

Help yourself to a feast of yuletide carols from the maestros of a capella:

The Company
TUX

Dec. 18 (Sat.), 8 PM

Pop Pasko

A sparkling evening of popular holiday tunes from:

Ogie Alcasid
Regine Velasquez
Luke Mejares
Kyla

Dec. 25 (Sat.), 8 PM

Paskoral

Enter the realm of the divine with soul-stirring performances by:

UP Concert Chorus
Montserrat Singers
Bukas Palad
Singing Ambassadors
Joan Cano

Dec. 31 (Fri.), 8 PM

Pagsalubong 2005

Welcome the New Year swinging to the funky Latin beat of:

La Carlota
Sipol
Paze Band

Fireworks Galore!

Christmas won't be complete without Eastwood City's weekend fireworks spectaculars. All Fridays and Saturdays of December, 10 PM; Dec. 31 (Fri.), 12 MN.

Must-see Musical

What happens if Santa calls it quits? Find out the answer in "December Hints of Mistletoe," a musical presented by the Koine Theater Group Foundation. Dec. 3, 10, 17 (Fridays), 7PM, at Eastwood City Walk II.

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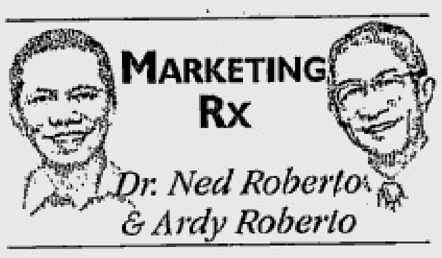
Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Find out people's pet peeves and you have a potential product hit



MARKETING Rx

Dr. Ned Roberto & Ardy Roberto

Q: I'M AN entrepreneur who makes all-purpose house cleaners and disinfectants, bleaching products, wooden furniture polisher and cleaner, air freshener, disinfectant sprays, glass cleaner, etc: I'm a chemical engineer. It was (my command) of chemistry that I used to develop my products. I'm trying to learn marketing and I've been to a good number of marketing seminars. But, every time I ask how I can find out leads and opportunities for developing new products, I get about the same answer: Find out your consumers' unmet needs, and then make the products that will satisfy those needs. I've been asking consumers what they need and are looking for in household care products. So has my market research agency. But both my research agency and myself have nothing to show by way of new product insights from all our efforts. Can you help please?"

A: You are not alone. You probably took the advice of the marketing seminar speakers too literally. Their advice is basically correct but you don't just ask a consumer, "What are your needs?" Most entrepreneurs or marketing executives don't get the answers they want that will spark a new product insight because of the way they or their market research agency asks the question.

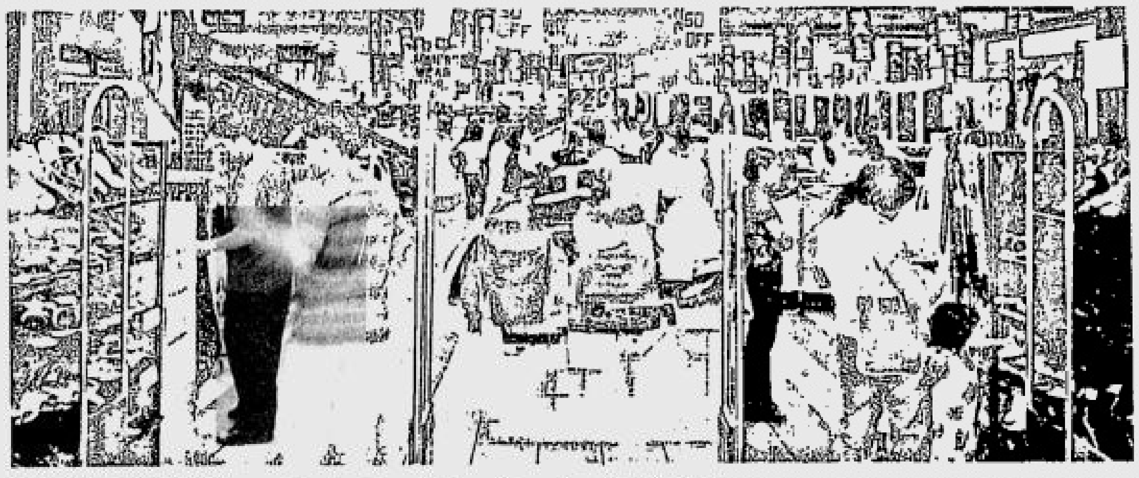
When you ask consumers "what do you look for or need in an air freshener, an all-purpose home cleaner or a bleaching product," you are assuming that consumers know what they need or what they are looking for in each of these products." Our own market research experience showed while consumers will answer this question, you will find nothing really new in their answers. For example, whenever we ask shampoo users what they want or look for in a shampoo, we already know what they will say and can therefore predict all their answers: cleans my hair, lathers abundantly, leaves my hair manageable, leaves my hair shiny, leaves my hair fragrant, does not cause dandruff and split ends, and the like. So in the what-need, what-look-for question, you don't uncover anything that you do not already know. And that's been the source of your frustration.

The other insight into this problem comes from new product innovators, inventors and developers. These people have long known that consumers can't tell you what they need or want or what they are looking for. The well-known and famous innovator, Akio Morita, founder of Sony, is often quoted to have said that when it comes to finding out consumer new product needs or wants: "In Sony, we don't ask consumers what they want. They don't know. Instead we apply our brain power to what they need,

FIND OUT/ B2-2

Consumers want even more (for even less)

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao



MANUFACTURERS have to bring down their selling prices, just to keep in step with competition. JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

CONSUMERS have always demanded more for less. But these days, they want even more for even less.

And consumers invariably get what they want, for the thousand choices in the market have forced many manufacturing and retail companies to bring down their selling prices, just to keep in step with competition.

This has led to thinning profit margins, a cause for serious concern among the players in the retail industry today.

Keith Newton of consulting firm Accenture said during a CEO discussion on "Addressing the Case of Thinning Margins in Asia" during the recently concluded ECR Conference in Manila, that the pressure to reduce margins was felt by both the retail and manufacturing sides of the business, and by consultants as well.

"It varies across countries and across categories, but it is true across Asia," Newton said.

Newton told the conference delegates that consumers today are emboldened by the proliferation of goods to demand more of the companies that sell products and services.

But there are still ways for companies to deserve a premium price for their products. One of these is to strengthen the brand, which was defined as a "promise" by the company to deliver a superior product.

Johnip Cua, president of Procter and Gamble Philippines, says brands always have to be reinvigorated so they offer something new to consumers.

CLOSER links between manufacturers, retailers and suppliers help reduce costs and keep margins stable.

"We look for ways to protect our brands to address thinning margins. As a big company we have a bit more leeway in spreading the margins around across the different products," Cua said.

Another way is to promote a closer collaboration between manufacturers, retailers and other players in the retail world to reduce costs and keep margins stable.

Positive friction

Randy Guttery of Robinsons Supermarket and Big R Supercenter, referred to the cooperation between manufacturers and retailers as "positive friction" that should result in savings for both major players.

Guttery said there were still differences but the level of mistrust that has been the legacy for many years is going down. There were at least efforts exerted to get past these traditional barriers in favor of transparency and cooperation.

Chim Howe-Lai, Unilever' senior vice president for Asia, said the tenets of efficient consumer response have also taken root across Asia and are leading to customer loyalty, something that all retailers aspire for in these trying times.

The ECR movement started in Asia in the '90s to get players together to fulfill consumer wishes faster and at less cost, by focusing on four areas: supply, demand, enablers and integrators.

'Win-win-win'

ECR builds business, reduces cost and increases consumer value. It is a "win-win-win" proposition for everyone, especially the consumers because they benefit in terms of better and fresher products at the right time, in the right place, and at the right price.

Chim said ECR Asia looks forward next year to furthering the vision of ECR Asia to reduce out of stock incidents by half and to deliver increased value to consumers by being responsive to their demand, improving efficiency and reducing waste and unnecessary costs.

With this vision in mind, retailers and manufacturers in Asia can look forward to delighting the sophisticated Asian consumer, and their stockholders.

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Tower Awards 2005 launched

THE TOWER Awards 2005 (The Outstanding Workers of the Republic) jointly sponsored by the Rotary Club of Manila, Metrobank Foundation Inc. and Peninsula Manila was launched recently.

The award is given to outstanding blue collar workers, both men and women in the fields of agriculture, fishery and forestry, communications, government, community and social services, construction, mining and quarrying, power generation and distribution, transportation, tourism and other small scale industries.

Judging will be based on skills development; job innovation; performance in terms of quality, quantity, work and attitude; leadership; personal character and other talents.

Each winner will receive P50,000 in cash; a Tower Awards trophy; Baccalaureate Degree from the Technological University of the Philippines (TUP); full scholarship for a bachelor degree or a masteral degree, either from Central Colleges of the Philippines (CCP), Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila (PLM) or TUP transferable to the awardee's children and one week complimentary accommodations at The Peninsula Manila.

Nomination forms may be obtained from Rotary Club of Manila secretariat office, 2nd floor, Delgado Building, Bonifacio Drive, Port Area, Manila or any Metrobank branch anywhere in the Philippines. Deadline for the submission of entries is March 31, 2005.

The Tower Awards 2005 is presented in cooperation with the Chinese–Filipino Business Club Inc., CCP, PLM and TUP.

For inquiries, call Noel Gonzales at 527-1889, 527-5295, 527-1885 (fax) or email rcmla@pacific.net.ph.

Find out people's pet peeves . . .

From page B2-1

and will want, and make sure we're there, ready."

Ask what they hate

What is this "brain power" application? It follows what consumer psychology and behavior research has discovered. And it's this: what consumers know is what they do not want, what they do not need, what they do not like, what they hate. Consumers are experts at talking about the details of their problems and concerns. When you succeed in getting consumers to talk about what's making them happy or contented, they speak in generic terms without the engaging details.

It is this consumer insight that made up the basis for the research technique that BBDO, a New York ad agency, developed and branded as PDA or Problem Detection Analysis. Ed Roa introduced PDA in the Philippines in the '80s. It enjoyed a brief period of popularity. Ed headed the 1980s Unilever's house research agency, Unisearch. AC Nielsen later acquired Unisearch. Ed then headed ACN after the acquisition.

Today, the PDA question remains as the better and richer source of new product insights and idea-generating question. It asks very simply: "This product that you now use to satisfy your need for wood furniture polishing, have you at one time or another had any occasion when you were disappointed, annoyed or irritated with it? If you had, what specifically has disappointed, annoyed or irritated you about it?"

Find out the pet peeves of people and you have a potential product hit.

This is similar to the advise that Jay Bernardo, professor of entrepreneurship at the Asian Institute of Management (AIM), gives to his students: What is it that irritates you? There is a business opportunity in creating a product or service that solves or gets rid of that irritation. AIM grad and entrepreneur, Raffy David, co-founded Pilipinas Teleserv to solve the irritation of people who had to line up and cut through so much red tape to renew a passport at the DFA or get a birth or marriage certificate from the NSO. Now all you have to do is call his DFA Direct or NSO Direct hotlines and they take care of everything. It's worth the few hundred bucks and their services have been "irritation solvers" even for us! (A classic case is the ubiquitous Post-its. We were told that Post-its were born because Art Fry, a 3M engineer, was irritated at the loose pieces of paper he used to mark the songs needed for church service that kept on falling out of his hymn book)

The productivity record of this question for generating new products has been outstanding. It is said to have led to Akio Morita's invention of the Walkman after he asked the question of audiophiles who were listeners of stereo players and cassette tape players.

What do you hate about napkins?

The development of the sanitary napkin Whisper with wings is attributed to the answers that consumers of no-wings napkin brands gave to the PDA question. When Whisper took over market leadership, the story says Modess regained leadership because it developed and launched a napkin that features channels and wings. The idea for that new napkin came from answers that Whisper napkin users gave when asked the very same PDA question that led to the development of Whisper napkin. (Women said they were irritated with napkins that "leaked" blood from the sides.)

A creative and extended variant of asking the PDA question was also responsible for the product concept underlying the unprecedented market entry success of the feminine wash brand, pH Care.

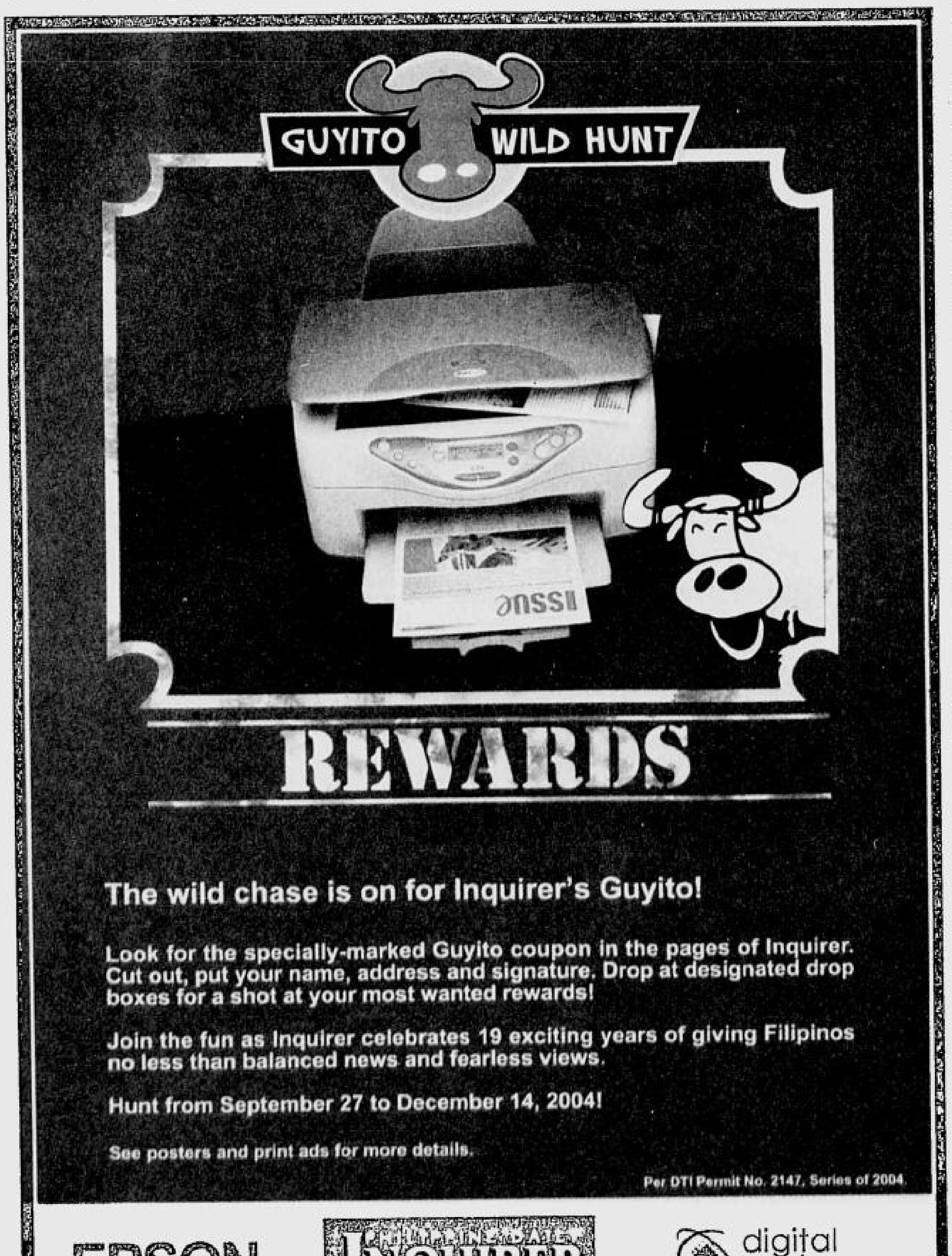
Users of the competitor brand, Lactacyd, were asked the PDA question. The insight into feminine wash users' need for a non-drying, non-itchy, and non-UTI causing wash came out from the answers. Then the company's new product development scientists were asked a PDA extension question: "In Lactacyd, what can disappoint, annoy and irritate its users if they actually use it daily?" The compelling pH Care product claim about pH balance came out of the laboratory tests and analyses addressing the PDA extension question. The lab tests discovered that Lactacyd had the wrong pH balance. This incorrect pH balance was found to be the source of the product's skin-drying, itchiness-producing, and UTI-causing incidences. This is what Akio Morita meant when he said: "We will apply our brain power on what consumers ... will want" or can be made to want. (That's the essence of being market-driving instead of market-driven.)

To students and clients who are using research for product and market opportunity search, we used to say this: "If you don't ask the question, you won't get the answer." After our research experience had shown that it's not just a matter of asking a question, we've modified that advice and now say: "If you don't ask the CORRECT question, you won't get the CORRECT answer."

So believe in the power of the correct question and learn to ask it. It's your consumer "insighter" for new product ideas and opportunities.

Erratum! Our apologies to the Taco Bell people and Grace Magno of the Araneta Group who owns the Taco Bell franchise in the Philippines. In last week's column, we gave the impression that Taco Bell in Singapore closed. Taco Bell remains open in the Lion City.

Feedback at mRXPDI@PLDTdsl.net or at eroberto@PLDTdsl.net



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The investment priorities for 2004

By Romulo S. Danao
and Ronald Steven Arriesgado
SGV & Co.

TAX-FILES

FROM the time the Philippines was dubbed one of the emerging "Tiger Economies" (during the presidency of Fidel Ramos) of the Southeast Asian Region, the Philippine government, specifically the Board of Investments (BOI), has been keen on finding ways to pole-vault our 'tiger-cub" economy into the 21st century.

The BOI issued the specific guidelines to implement the 2004 Investments Priorities Plan (IPP). The IPP is formulated yearly by the BOI by listing several economic activities that the BOI deems to be given preference. The list of economic activities, if undertaken by local and foreign investors, serves as a conduit in the continuation of the Philippine's economic reform programs. The need for the efficient implementation of these programs are crucial for continuous industrial development, an increase in foreign direct investments, the acceleration of export sales, and the dispersal of economic growth to the countryside and congruent improvements in specific sectors.

As an incentive for investing in said preferred economic activities, the enterprise, after registering with the BOI, is usually granted an income tax holiday (ITH) for four or six years from the start of commercial operations, depending on the status of the economic activity (pioneer or non-pioneer status).

Although largely similar to the 2003 IPP, the 2004 IPP has included several innovations particularly with sustaining global competitiveness of Philippine industries. The following are the salient features of the 2004 IPP:

Export activities

Compared to the 2003 IPP which highlighted export trading and services, the export activities of the 2004 IPP focused on export producers; service exporters; and activities in support of exporters.

A. **Export producers.** This covers the manufacture of non-traditional export products, of which, 50 percent of the output must be exported if Filipino owned, 70 percent if foreign owned. In order to qualify for an ITH, industrial goods for export should have undergone manufacturing, while mineral products should have undergone processing.

However, the production of industrial goods including the exportation of recycled materials which have undergone simple processing in the form of cleaning, sorting, cutting, shredding, pulverizing, grinding, crushing, compacting, dissolving and filtration will not be granted ITH. Similarly, mineral products which have only undergone simple processing such as quarrying, mining, cleaning, sorting and size reduction will also not be afforded any ITH.

B. **Service exporters.** As for service exporters, these shall cover the following activities:

1. Information and communication technology (ICT) services;
2. ICT-enabled services; and
3. ICT support services rendered to international clients.

ICT services

ICT services include core information technology (IT) activities such as IT project management, applications systems development, applications services providers, Web development and management, database design and development, computer networking and data communications, software development, ICT facilities operations management, and computer graphics animation.

Software development projects/activities will be eligible for BOI registration if the product is for universal or commercial use. Those intended for a specified client/user (customized programs) will not be included.

ICT-enabled services

ICT-enabled services refer to businesses that can be transformed and delivered through ICT infrastructure such as call centers, medical/legal transcription, engineering design, and business process outsourcing activities.

Call centers must have a minimum investment of $2,500 per seat in order to be qualified for BOI incentives. This amount covers the cost of the equipment (hardware and software), office furniture and fixtures, and building improvements, but excludes the cost of the land, building and working capital.

For call centers using leased equipment, the same may be converted to assets in terms of prevailing commercial interest rates amortized over a five-year period. If the equipment is consigned, the same should have a stated value and should be considered part of investment costs.

ICT support services

ICT support services cover activities such as research and development of high value-added communication technology (CT) products and services, ICT educational and training institutions, incubation centers, and provision of Internet services, community access (limited to less developed areas), and electronic governance, excluding Internet service providers.

ICT educational and training institutions refer to the establishment and operation of training institutions that specialize in developing skills using state-of-the-art facilities. To be eligible for registration with the BOI, the project, specifically the institution's curriculum, should be endorsed by the Technical Educational and Skills Development Authority (Tesda), the Commission on Higher Education (CHEd), or the recognized industry association in the field of training. The project must also provide training laboratories with reliable means of Internet access.

Community access facilities include Internet cafés/kiosks and multipurpose telecommunication centers which provide facilities for mass-based use of Internet commerce, and should be located in less-developed areas in order to avail of the BOI incentives.

The project should have the following qualifications:

- Utilizes a network that provides reliability of access;
- A rollout plan covering various areas of the Philippines;
- Support the programs of the Local Government Units (LGUs) in complying with the "Government On-line" project;
- Assist educational institutions in promoting e-commerce and in augmenting the lack of sufficient computer facilities.

In order to be eligible for pioneer status, an ICT related project should comply with any of the following criteria:

- The project should utilize new or untried technology;
- The project should introduce a major innovation in software development; and
- The project cost should be at least $2.5 million to be put up during the first year of operations.

C. **Activities in support of exporters**—This covers the following services:

- Services comprising a portion of the manufacturing process;
- Sub-assembly of parts/components of the final export product;
- Fabrication of parts/components of final products wherein the raw materials are provided by the direct exporter;
- Product testing and inspection—these shall cover activities that will verify Philippine products' compliance with national and international standards (ISO certifications);
- Repair, maintenance and calibration of machinery and equipment used by export-oriented companies—these shall cover activities that will ensure the proper operation of machinery and equipment and may include the provision of spare parts and sub-assembly necessary for the repair.

Once registered with the BOI, the enterprise must render at least 50 percent of its services, if Filipino owned, or 70 percent of its services, if foreign owned, to exporters registered with the BOI, Philippine Economic Zone Authority, or other economic zones.

Specifically, registered enterprises engaged in the repair, maintenance and calibration of machinery, at least 50 percent if Filipino owned, or 70 percent if foreign owned, of the income should be generated from the servicing of export-oriented firms registered with the BOI, Philippine Economic Zone Authority, or other economic zones.

Other preferred activities

The 2004 IPP has included three new activities otherwise not found in the 2003 IPP:

1. Environmental services—These services cover the following:

a. Establishment of toxic and hazardous waste (THW) merchant facilities—These refer to an integrated and self-contained facility capable of processing a wide range of toxic and hazardous waste that involves complete treatment, storage and disposal. To qualify for registration, the project must use only locally generated THWs. In general, a pioneer status will be granted if the facility costs more than $20 million.

b. Testing/measuring services for industrial/institutional point sources of emission and effluent and other related environmental parameters for machinery and equipment excluding motor vehicles—To be eligible for BOI registration, the application should be endorsed by the Environmental Monitoring Body (EMB) of the Department of Environment and National Resources (DENR), and the project shall adopt a technology that conforms with the international standards for industrial testing projects as certified by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST). Pioneer status may be granted on certain conditions.

c. Clean development mechanism (CDM) projects—These projects cover activities that substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, fuel switching, methane recovery, industrial processes/changes, cogeneration (use of waste heat from electric generation), electric and fuel cell vehicles, methane reduction in rice cultivation and afforestation and reforestation projects. To qualify for BOI registration, the application should be endorsed by the DENR-EMB or the project is included in the positive list of CDM eligible projects of DENR-EMB.

d. River system rehabilitation—This covers projects involving the environmental management and rehabilitation of Philippine waterways pursuant to the mandate provided by the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) and the Manila Bay Environmental Management Program (MBEMP). To qualify for BOI registration, an endorsement from PRRC or DENR is required.

2. Packaging—This covers production of packaging materials using high technology and brand new equipment. "Packaging materials," as defined in the 2004 IPP, shall mean all products made of any materials to be used for the containment, protection, handling, delivery or presentation of goods.

3. Petrochemicals—This involves the manufacture of petrochemicals derived from petroleum raw materials or natural gas. Activities covered include upstream activities (manufacture of monomers such as ethylene and propylene) and midstream activities (chemical conversion of monomers into polymers such as polyethylene, polystyrene, polypropylene, and polyvinyl chloride).

The Philippine economy is currently at a stage where economic reforms have begun to make its impact positively felt through the country's main economic indicators. Although reforms are still continuing and more investment enhancing measures are still being pursued, there are indications that the country can fast-track priority economic activities to jump-start the economy's development.

THE MORE EXPENSIVE THE BETTER

Greeting card biz thrives in e-mail era

NO ONE throws a Hallmark card away. Especially not when it costs a whopping £10.

Despite the threats posed by modern means of communications such as e-mail and texting, the greeting card business is apparently still thriving. So much so that in England, greeting card giant Hallmark sells a card with a tag price equivalent to roughly P1,040.

Ian I. Stuart, president of Hallmark International, said the £10 greeting card is practically a work of art. "This card has got a lot of additional attachments. It doesn't have just four pages. Inside would be small, lighter pages; outside, we'd have little pieces added on that's got some depth and usually a nice ribbon down the edge. Then we'd have little (faux) diamonds, snowdrops, a tear or a little heart. It's quite a construction. It comes in a box. It's almost a gift. You would never ever throw it away. You would keep it."

Stuart, who was in Manila recently to mark the 30th anniversary of Hallmark in the Philippines, also cited musical cards with a retail cost of $8 each as best sellers in the European market, particularly in the Netherlands.

He described the greeting card business as "pretty healthy." He said sales growth has been noted mostly in Europe and Australasia.

"In terms of number of cards sold everyday, it's very flat; what we're seeing is that people are wishing to buy greeting cards of higher value. So as an industry, we're trying to put more design and content into the cards."

Hallmark shows in its website consolidated net revenues of $4.3 billion in 2003. It claims to have greater than 50 percent of the greeting card market.

In the Philippines, Stuart said it has been a good year for Hallmark, citing Christmas and Valentine's Day as two occasions when greeting cards tend to enjoy brisk sales.

He acknowledged, however, that the texting phenomenon has had some impact on the business locally. "Young kids in particular find it quite trendy right now to send SMS (short messaging system). The question is, whether that will be in the long term, good or bad for the industry. Short-term will be bad; there's some evidence long-term will be quite good."

Stuart said at the moment, it is still not known what the long-term impact of electronic communications would be, but that the phenomenon of sending e-cards was expected, particularly in the United States.

Maximo G. Licauco III, president of Filstar Distributors Corp., distributor of Hallmark in the Philippines, said the popularity of cell phones in the country has changed the lifestyle of Filipinos particularly in terms of communicating. He noted that the mobile phone, which was introduced to the country seven to eight years ago, now has approximately 30 million users.

"We can actively communicate now and somehow it has affected the industry of greeting cards. Even if you say Hallmark is ink on paper, when you send a greeting via cell phone, it's still a piece of greeting to a birthday celebrant, for instance," Licauco said.

He said Filstar is currently undertaking measures to reach out to the "texting generation," a segment described as exposed to the use of mobile phones and for whom sending greeting cards is almost a rarity.

Hallmark
BIC
MaYa ANGELOU
Squares To Share
Greeting Cards
Portfolio Notes

MAXIMO G. Licauco III, Cecilia R. Licauco, Ian Stuart and Scott Chaloud, Hallmark International licensing and export director. Photo on right shows a new line—the Maya Angelou's Life Mosaic Collection.

Filstar has been conducting a tour of elementary schools featuring letter-writing sessions for students. The company has brought the project to 20 schools already out of an initial target of 25 schools. But because of the positive response, Filstar is likely to commit to another 25 schools by the first quarter of 2005, according to Licauco.

The lessons on letter-writing have proven to be an effective vehicle for promoting the Hallmark brand, along with that of Bic ballpen, which Filstar also carries. Products are distributed to students for free or are given away as prizes for writing contests.

But there is another reason for the good feedback to the writing sessions—they have supplemented school efforts to combat so-called "text spelling. "We have received a lot of comments from teachers saying that spelling has eroded among students. 'Time' is spelled as 'tym', 'Are you' is spelled as 'r u'. It's all shortcut. By going school to school, we are able to teach them how to express themselves more in the proper way," Licauco said.

Cecilia R. Licauco, vice president for purchasing of National Book Store, said the school tour is aimed at instilling an appreciation for the written word among the project's target group.

"In the 30 years that Hallmark has been in the Philippines, we've gone through several ages already of greeting card senders. We want to ensure the younger generation is also exposed to it," she said.

Licauco III added they also hope to show young people an alternative way of greeting loved ones, particularly on special occasions. "When you receive a text, you are greeted; when you receive a card, it's beyond greeting. There is emotion involved. You know the sender took time to pick the design that would fit your character and the sentiment that would fit what he wanted to say. There's more of a personal touch to it."

Stuart said attracting the younger market has meant bringing added value to a greeting card. For instance, Hallmark has incorporated gift items such as a love bracelet along with a card. "We're trying to give people things they can't get from a different category and interest them to buy. We're also trying to place our products with frequent everyday purchases so whatever you buy, you get an incentive to buy greeting cards."

The greeting card, being the company's product, itself receives utmost care and attention. According to Stuart, Hallmark maintains a creative staff of about 1,400, comprised of writers, original artists and designers.

Aside from maintaining links with fine arts colleges, Hallmark also sponsors young designers' wards in the hope of discovering fresh talents.

Hallmark invests heavily in its creative staff, for instance sending their designers to exposure trips where they can get inspiration and to "just be creative." The results are later manifested in the designs that the staff comes out with.

He added the various design teams also go on creativity immersions at Hallmark's Kansas headquarters. Writers, on the other hand, go through writing exercises and attend sessions with consumers who talk to them about life experiences—all potential sources of greeting material.

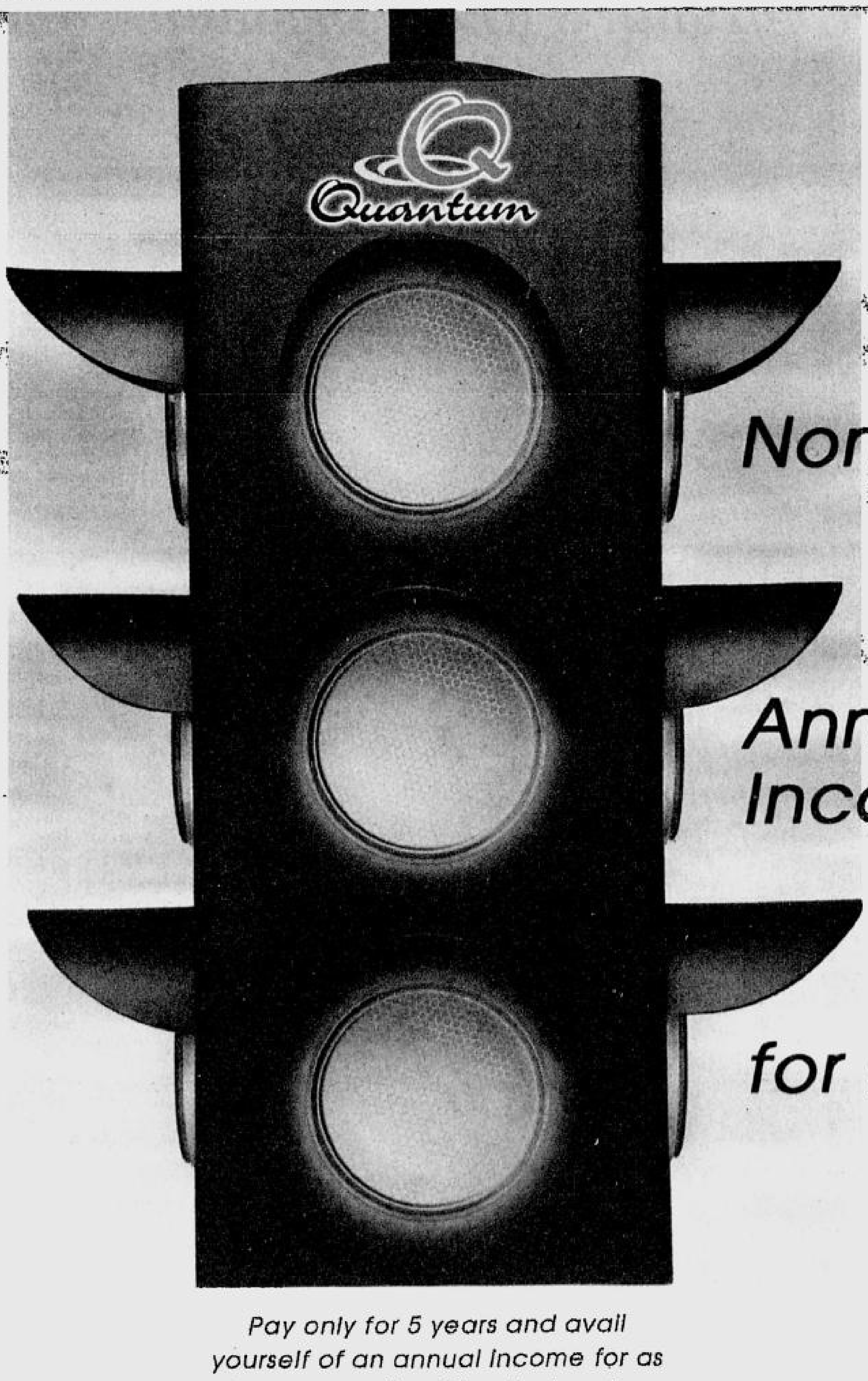
Stuart pointed out that Hallmark also has about half a billion pieces of writing on electronic file, some written as far back as the 1950s. "So a modern day writer can visit stuff that's been written before and find things which are relevant for the day and bring them back."

Popular designs are also brought back, but on the whole, Stuart estimated that 50 to 75 percent of Hallmark cards are new every year.

He said that the much-vaunted £10 greeting card has its share of buyers, but then there are those who still go for the basic. Stuart recalled that among the company's huge hits is an anniversary card from a husband to his wife.

"It has four simple lines: *'Loved you then/ Love you still/ Always have/ Always will.'* Very powerful," Stuart said.

Reader's Digest Philippines SUPERBRAND PHILAMLIFE



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BUSINESS *Friday*

Benguet pursues Virginia

By Frank Cimatu
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

EVEN if the tobacco industry was described a sunset industry, almost all players predict Benguet will pave the way on how the tobacco industry will go.

TUBA, Benguet—It may be a long shot but Benguet is trying to be the newest member of the elite "Republic Act 7171 Club" composed of the provinces benefiting from the excise taxes from the sale of Virginia tobacco.

Tuba Mayor Jose Baluda said residents have welcomed the idea of cultivating Virginia tobacco even as the production of temperate vegetables has dropped.

Highest price

He said farms growing tobacco in Barangays Tabaan Norte, Taloy Sur and Nangalisan here have expanded from 30 hectares last year to more than 100 ha this year.

But the better news is that Virginia tobacco leaves planted in Benguet yielded the highest price among all types of Virginia tobacco this year.

Benedict Lumauig, National Tobacco Administration deputy director for operations, said the Benguet tobacco leaves fetched a buying price of P89 a kilogram, almost twice the average buying price of tobacco grown in other areas.

Now, Benguet is keeping its goal of becoming the fifth province to benefit from RA 7171 or the recipient of the excise taxes from the sale of Virginia tobacco.

Ilocos Sur, La Union, Abra and Ilocos Norte are the only members of the so-called RA 7171 Club. For Benguet to enter the group, it must have an annual production of more than a million kgs.

While Benguet tries to reach its production target, its share of RA 7171 funds is being credited to nearby Pugo, La Union.

Baluda said this was estimated at between P1.5 million and P2 million.

"We are thinking of coming out with a MOA (memorandum of agreement) with Pugo to use the money in improving the roads here and other necessary infrastructures," Baluda said.

Itogon, a mining town in Benguet, also wants to cultivate tobacco, hoping to duplicate the success of Tuba.

Itogon Mayor Mario Godio said farmers in Barangay Tinongdan are enthusiastic to cultivate tobacco.

"There are no other livelihood for them. Mining is dying," he said.

Around 20 hectares in Tinongdan are devoted to tobacco farming, he said.

Even if the tobacco industry is already described as a sunset industry, almost all industry players predict that Benguet will pave the way on how the tobacco industry will go.

"It is very possible," said Mathew Diong, TransManila Inc. vice president for operations. TMI is the leaf buyer for Philip Morris Philippines Manufacturing Inc.

Last year, Benguet farmers already produced 52,000 kgs, and for the next year's harvest, they can easily harvest 200,000 kgs, Diong said.

"If there's a will, there's a way," he added.

TMI had been providing the will for Benguet farmers who were hesitant to go into tobacco production when the idea was first presented to them three years ago.

TMI opened the Philippine Tobacco School last year in Barangay Tabaan Norte here and had graduated 43 tobacco farmers last May.

On Nov. 24, they graduated 50 more farmers in a hands-on training to properly cultivate Virginia tobacco. Of the second batch, 20 came from Itogon.

Also on that day, TMI opened the 1st Philippine Tobacco Production Technology Training Center in Tabaan Norte. Diong said his company set aside P3 million as initial investment to produce world-class Virginia tobacco here.

He said the training center is geared to transfer new technology to farmers. The center comes with a nursery, laboratory and training kits provided by TMI to new tobacco farmers.

Diong said the center's trainers would go to communities to teach farmers how to grow Virginia tobacco.

Tobacco leaves produced in Benguet, he said, have been proven superior to their lowland counterparts.

"The direction of the market is globalization. To penetrate the world market, we need quality-centered production. We need to learn how to gain the prestige," he said.

He said Philip Morris promised to help TMI in its training as long as the tobacco produced is superior. He said Philip Morris bought all the tobacco produced here.

Diong said the Benguet tobacco is comparable to Brazilian tobacco, which is among the best in the world.

Lawrence Wee, agronomy head of Philip Morris Philippines, said the Benguet tobacco is "promising. They are very good. Visually, there is a little room for improvement," Wee said.

Quality tobacco leaves have a light orange color and the structure of the open veins should be prominent, he said.

"But smoking-wise, the leaves are indeed good," he said.

To produce quality tobacco, Wee said the right quality of soil, water viability and weather should be considered.

Diong said the weather condition should be "hot days, cold nights and humid."

TMI is advocating the early growth system where the planting starts in November to take advantage of the cold season.

Wee said the training school is a good step for the new farmers. He said new technology, rather than traditional knowledge, is needed to compete in the world market.

Furniture group charts RP strategies to compete globally

THE CHAMBER of Furniture Industries of the Philippines (CFIP) is charting the strategic moves to beat the stiff competition in the world market.

This was revealed by CFIP president Nikolaas de Lange, citing the recruitment of thousands of Filipino designers by China and Malaysia to make their furniture products globally competitive.

"With Filipino designers being recruited by foreign countries, CFIP members can no longer just rely on design, ingenuity, and craftmanship," De Lange said, implying that the Philippines' niche in the world's high-end market segment could consequently face a serious threat.

He stressed the need for the local industry to focus on specific markets by studying and understanding them in terms of tastes, culture-inspired preferences and lifestyle-driven necessities.

"Only then can we correct design products for every specific market and attack it through identified channels of distribution," De Lange pointed out.

The Philippines has always catered to the upper end of the global market, where it has gained a niche in high-end designs, capturing design-oriented stores worldwide.

Nonetheless, there's potential to stay in that niche, according to De Lange, "for as long as we can have better access to foreign retailers. And the Filipinos are good in servicing foreign retail customers."

But to increase exports, which account for only 1/5 of one percent of the world's total furniture production, the Philippines will have to venture into the other segments beyond its niche and come up with market-specific products.

"Product development is very important," De Lange said as he emphasized the need for collaboration among factories in adjacent localities to develop complementary specializations, and facilitate production at required quality and volume.

This type of collaboration, De Lange explained, would mean assigning parts of a big contract to other nearby factories that have their respective specialization in various aspects of the production line.

"Not every factory can have all the machines required to produce fine furniture, but each factory can have one where it can specialize in, do business, and make profits," De Lange explained.

The result would be the practice of subcontracting, which has become prevalent among manufacturers in Japan and Italy to enable them to meet volume and quality requirements within specific time frames.

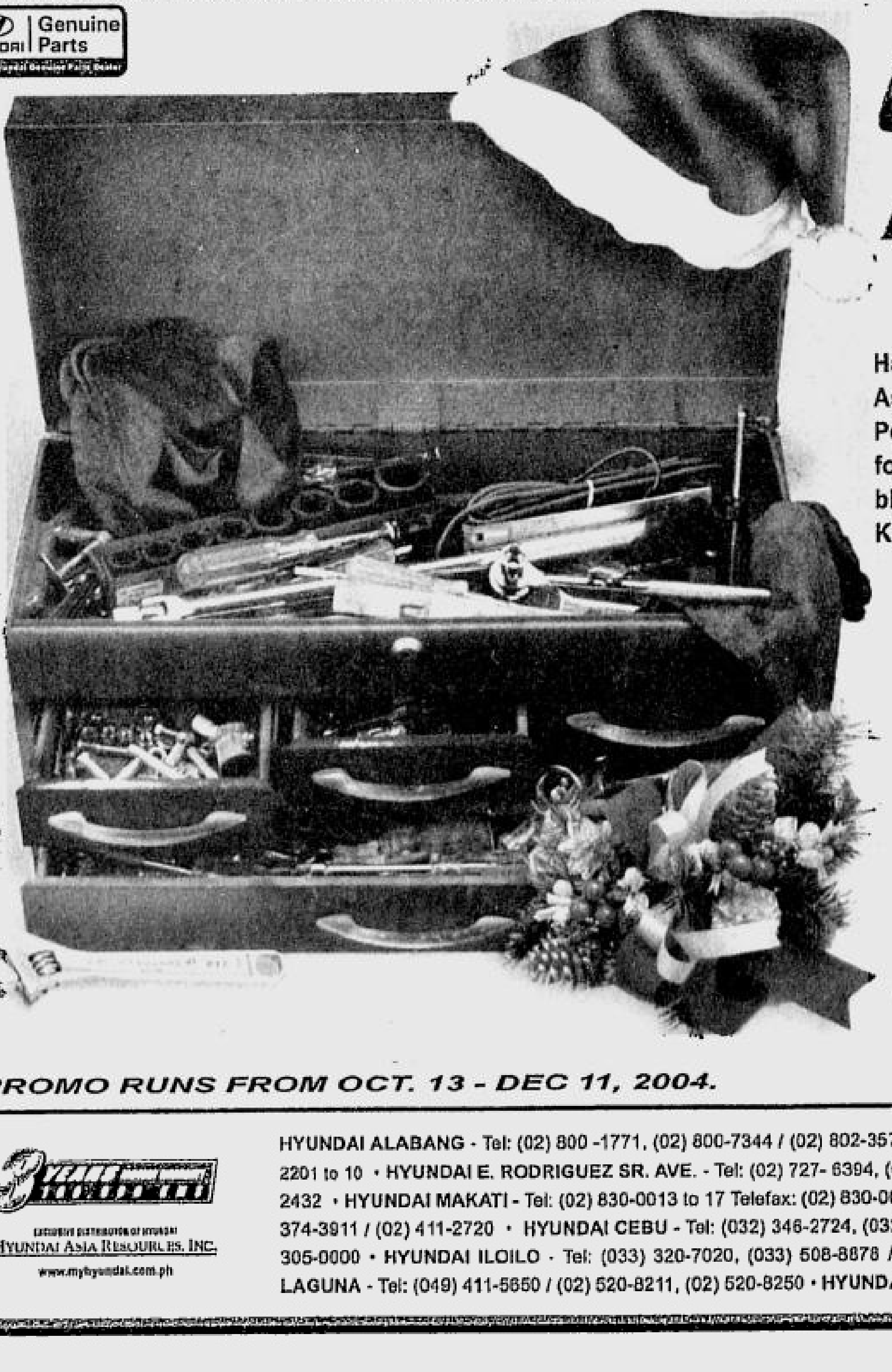
Complementation has thus become a key strategy being espoused by the CFIP to also maximize the use of capital, gain economies of scale, achieve cost-efficiency, and attain both quality and price competitiveness in the world market in anticipation of increased competition in all segments.

The need for increased productivity also stems from the enormous growth in the number of foreign buyers who visit the CFIP's Philippine International Furniture Show (PIFS), which is staged annually at the World Trade Center and the Philippine Trade Training Center.

The next PIFS will be held on Feb. 28 to March 3, 2005. From 250, the number of PIFS exhibitors has risen to 280, while the number of foreign buyers has doubled to 1,200.

"Among the foreign buyers, the US is such an attractive market because it's only in the US that you have the large retail chains—with 120 stores," De Lange said. "The Middle East is also an attractive market. A lot of the Middle East guys have not been going to the US anymore because of visa restrictions. They have also realized that a lot of the furniture that they buy in the US come from the Philippines."

The European market, according to De Lange, is "interesting—more independent—because they have only three of four stores. The volumes are not so big because they don't have these retail chains covering all of Europe."



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"She's like a little gamine who likes to play"
Jean Paul Gaultier

MADONNA
playing with the boys in vintage cap, wife-beater tank-top and jeans

The allure of his clothes

From ties to tuxedo pants, men's apparel have become part and parcel of the female wardrobe

By Leica Carpo
Contributor

Clean lines, crisp pressing, no-frills dressing and the promise of "I can be ready in five minutes"—and meaning it. That's my idea of menswear dressing.

My father was one of a handful of well-turned-out men who exhibited the seemingly effortless elegance that I've always associated with the James Bond look.

How can you not admire a wardrobe that survives car crashes, bombings and fist fights, with the hero all the while looking fabulously ready for a photo-op and a black-tie dinner?

My father could go on a week-long trip to Europe in various climates with just an overnight case. Despite his small travel wardrobe, he always managed to look better-garbed than his daughters despite their back-

THE ALLURE/ C3

ANGELINA JOLIE

DOLCE & Gabbana classic tuxedo suit worn by Angelina Jolie

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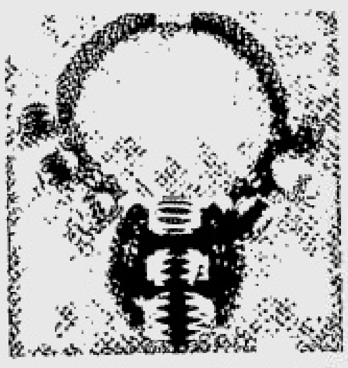

REWORKING vintage beads /G1

RING in the glam /G2

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TINA Maristela Ocampo

Female eye for the straight guy's look

JOANN Bitagcol

PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

THREE fab women who swear by the appeal of menswear—fashion entrepreneur and former model Tina Maristela Ocampo (MIX, The Black Shop, Anonymous, i2i), 42; Preview associate fashion editor Isha Andaya, 24; and model-photographer Joann Bitagcol, 26—share their views on where to source men's clothes and how to wear them with style.

Why do you wear men's clothes?

Isha: They are comfortable and less inhibiting than tight or ruffly clothes. I also find that tailored cuts are more flattering for my shape. Men's trousers (without pleats) make my legs look longer and slimmer and for that sleek look nothing beats a well-cut jacket.

Tina: It's inevitable to have moments that I get sick and tired of wearing feminine pieces and often find inspiration from a certain menswear item that I chance upon on my shopping expeditions.

Joann: It's a form of security/defense mechanism on my part because I live in a not-so-safe area in Makati and I commute a lot.

Favorite piece

Isha: My knee-length boy shorts since they are so easy to move in and I like how they fit. My gray Victor and Rolf jeans that are cut like men's trousers and sit really low on my hips—they're so masculine yet sexy at the same time. My logo shirts that have a bit of that scruffy boy attitude. I wear them with everything, even skirts.

Tina: My latest find is a Pucci necktie that I found in a flea market in Connecticut. It was a wonderful find amid the chaos of prints. When I saw the print I was thrilled by the possibilities—other than a

ISHA Andaya

PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

From manpower to woma

JOEY Samson

THERE is no doubt menswear has injected an energy into female fashion that no trend or designer can shake off. And we are not just talking here about a woman throwing on her boyfriend's shirt after spending the night with him. From runway to real life, manly accoutrements have adorned women and made them even more provocative. Local designers Joey Samson, Patrice Ramos-Diaz and Louis Claparols help us understand why.

What makes menswear more than a trend?

Joey: More and more females have come to adopt or embrace men's dressing into their wardrobe and even make it a staple wardrobe item. I guess it's more fun to dress up when you throw a menswear piece onto the usual feminine garment.

Patrice: Menswear materials and the mannish look have been in and out of fashion since way back. They continue to be a strong look because of the classic feel and the interesting irony that mannish outfits can actually bring forth a woman's femininity. The reason menswear for women is more than a trend is it has lasting power in a woman's wardrobe, a long shelf-life. The look has become classic.

Louis: Because menswear doesn't drastically change; if it does the change is gradual.

PATRICE Ramos-Diaz

What are your favorite menswear pieces to work on?

Joey: Tuxedo suit and trousers.

Patrice: I like exploring the use of Italian wool, and other types of suiting materials. I also play around with the classic white polo shirts, tuxedo shirts, tuxedo pants, cummerbands, the trubenized collars and French cuffs.

Louis: Almost everything, but since I do womenswear it's fun to add interesting details to men's trousers to make it more feminine... like embellishments, patterns.

Where lies the appeal in designing menswear for women?

Joey: The marriage of both masculine and feminine shape/silhouette and detail and even fabrication in a singular look.

Patrice: The appeal lies in the irony... that something masculine can actually make a woman look so feminine.

Louis: In designing menswear for women, you make the character of the woman seem stronger, more empowered, larger than life.

What type of woman can wear menswear?

Joey: Those who are willing to be more than typical and who are not afraid to ex plore the other side of their individuality.

Patrice: Menswear can be figure flattering since the lines are clean and classic or usually tailored.

Louis: Women who don't believe that the man is the only one who "wears the pants" in their relationships, in their work, in the world.

Which designers do you think brought menswear to the forefront of fashion and have kept it from being dated?

Joey: Coco Chanel for her beach pajamas, YSL for his Le Smokin' jacket, Giorgio Armani for his soft tailoring, and most recently Hedi Slimane for his slim, almost severe suits.

Patrice: Ralph Lauren, Giorgio Armani, Calvin Klein, Paul Smith, Victor and Rolf, Jil Sander, Ann Demeulemeester, Junya Watanabe, and Yohji Yamamoto .

Louis; Paul Smith—by adding a lot of

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omen who
ess like men
ok more
stinguished
d gives new
eaning to
e term 'power
essing."

io, I could use it as a belt to go with my kirt.
ann: My low-waist trousers because they mfortable.

ou think it's sexy for women to s like men?

a: Yes, probably because it makes wom- ok more distinguished and gives new ing to the term "power dressing." Femi- lothes lend a certain frailty and delicacy the wearer so menswear is ideal for the an who likes strong women.

Tina: When a woman uses a man's atch and a laced camisole under a sin- e-button men's jacket—I don't think it's urn-off to men. Quite the opposite, in ct. Honestly, though, when a woman ars a complete menswear look and acts a man to boot even I get turned off.

Joann: There are some people who ap- ciate the subtle creativity involved in my ssing counter to the stereotype of "what odel should wear" but I am not sure if find it sexy.

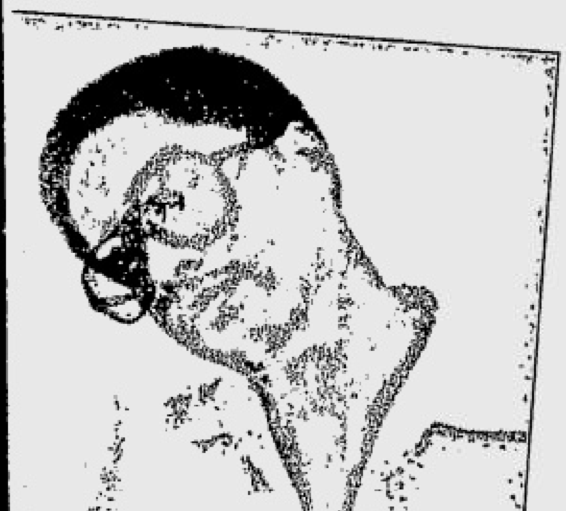
hion icons

ha: Stella Tennant (Chanel model/ h aristocrat). In Manila, Joann Bitagcol aith Uy.
a: Marlene Dietrich and all the '40s en during the war prior to Christian "new look."
ann: British model Stella Tennant—she icon when it comes to styling.

re and how do you source your swear items?

a: I keep an eye out for tailored pieces in store I go. I might find a nice vest or r in Mango or cool polo in Tyler. I've even l stuff at Bench. Usually I look in men's zine—like Details, or a show or movie or some guy I spot—I then just put it to- r with things I already have or what I see I shop.
a: Flea markets, Barneys men's section York), Japan department stores have "mannish pieces" for women. Antique watches also interest me.
ann: Most of my items come from riend) Tadi's closet.

npower



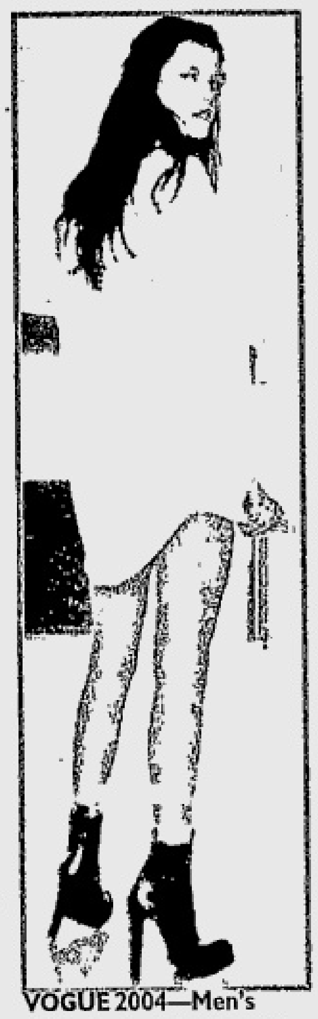
LOUIS Claparols

and interesting details; Gucci, Roberto li, and Dolce & Gabbana for adding a lot appeal into menswear .

at items of clothing do women wear y that were initially inspired by wear?

ey: Practically every component and ac- ry of a suit—jacket, trousers, shirt, vests, spenders, etc.
trice: Of course, pants! Also, tailored s, the classic polo shirts, sport shirts.
uis: Structured suits... Ties, the "wife r," although we don't like to call it that ore.

The allure of his clothes



VOGUE 2004—Men's white button-down shirt. A wardrobe staple for him and her

From page C1

breaking mountains of luggage.

What comes to mind about all well-dressed males and females is their attention to detail. My father was very particular about how his trousers were pressed. He also preferred a specific shade of blue for his clothes.

His wardrobe consisted of three basic colors: white, tan and light blue. Despite such a limited palette, the depth if not breadth of his wardrobe was legendary. For example, his white shirt collection consisted of over 200 items made from the finest materials available in a variety of weights—from 100-percent Egyptian cotton to three-ply cashmere.

More importantly, like any true fashion blue blood, he knew how to accessorize. Hence, he always sported the perfect watch and had a shoe collection worthy of a museum.

Now the mainstays of a wardrobe like my father's have crossed over to the closets of the most fabulous females.

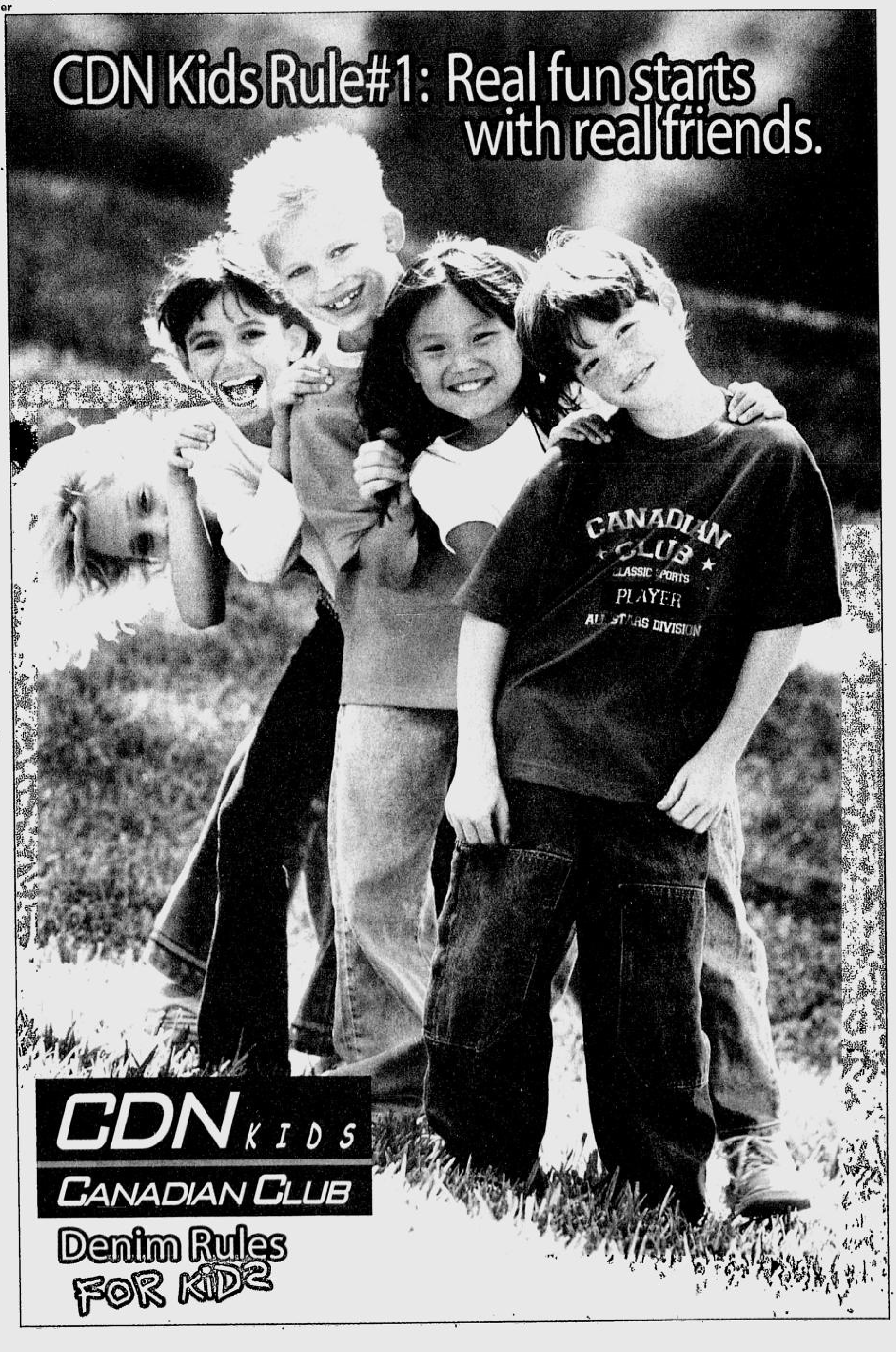
The suit, the core of a man's wardrobe, has been adopted, adapted and modified to flatter the female figure. Yes, even as the most recent Paris couture week harkened back to glamorous dressing, the suit lives on, favored by designers like Giorgio Armani and Chanel.

Celebrity style arbiters like Madonna and Nicole Kidman look fabulous suited and tied. Some Hollywood actresses became fashion icons through the masculine look. Katherine Hepburn cut a rather dashing figure in her trousers. Diane Keaton eschewed the slinky gown on Oscars night in favor of Ralph Lauren's morning tails, a shirt and a tie, and completed the look with a bowler and her trademark leather gloves.

This holiday season, check out a classic look that is practical, sexy and dramatic.

THE TUXEDO chic look that is still in vogue today (1975, photo by Helmut Newton for YSL)

HARPER'S Bazaar November 2004, Nicole Kidman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Denim Rules FOR KIDZ

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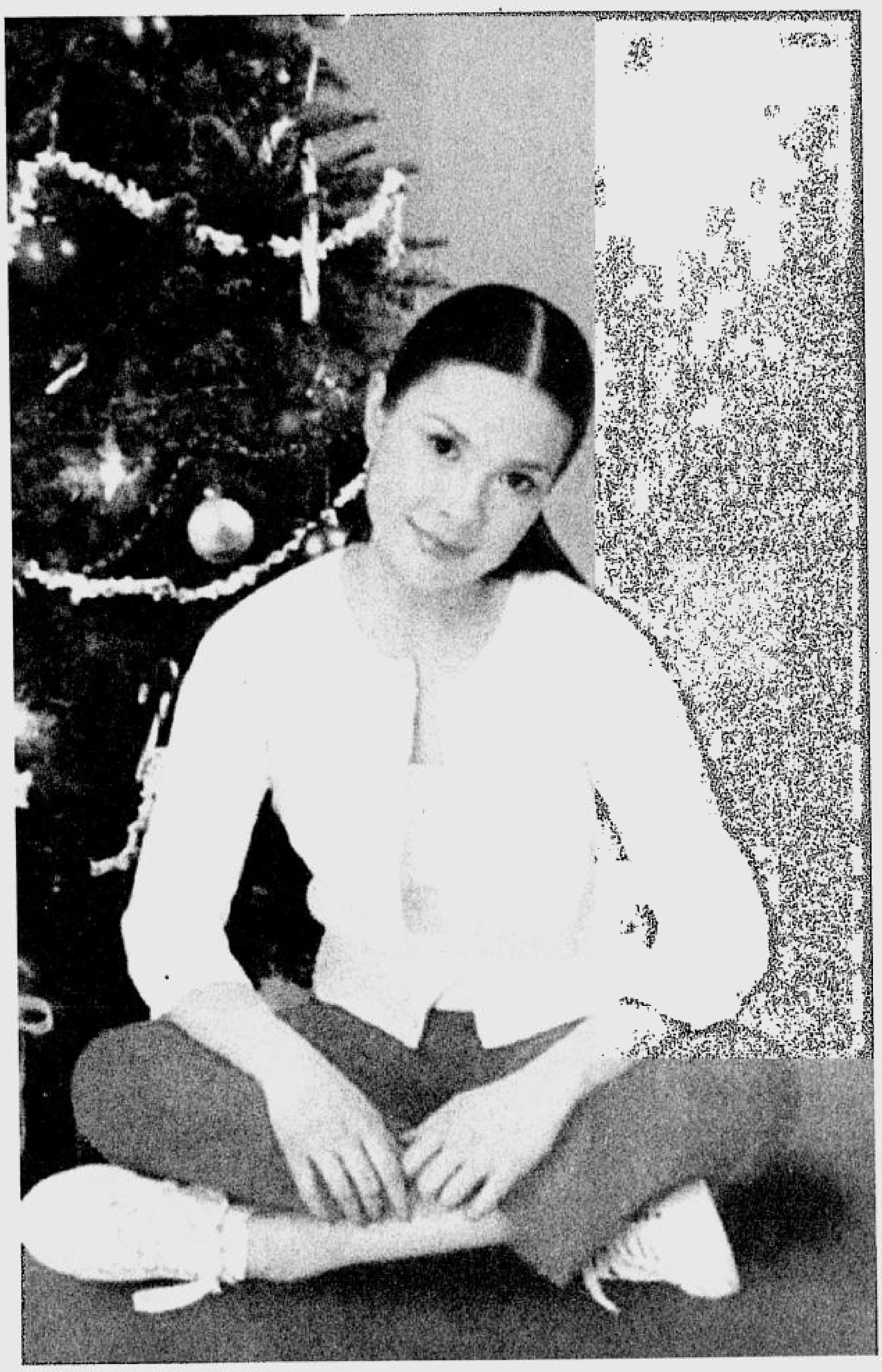

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Christmas Songs

TITLES	Code	TITLES	Code
Grown up Christmas List	RA107	Sana Ngayong Pasko	RA111
Pasko Na Sinta Ko	RA108	Even Santa Fell In Love	RA112
The Gift	RA109	The Christmas Song	RA113
It's Just another New Year's Eve	RA110	Twelve Days of Christmas	RA114

Other Hits

TITLES	Code
Friend of Mine	RA115
Even If	RA116
I Remember the Boy	RA117
Can We Stop and Talk	RA118
Fallin'	RA119

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Islander

Complement your menswear with smashing hairdo and makeup

FOCUS on red lips and nails, very subtle smoky eyes and natural blush

PHOTOS BY PAT DY

TYLER 2004 (Autumn-Winter Collection) tuxedo look in cream on Tessa Nieto and nylon trench coat on Joanne Kuhn

L'OREAL Paris creative director and makeup artist James Galiardos gives women tips on hair and makeup when wearing men's clothes so they don't end up looking more mannish than their men.

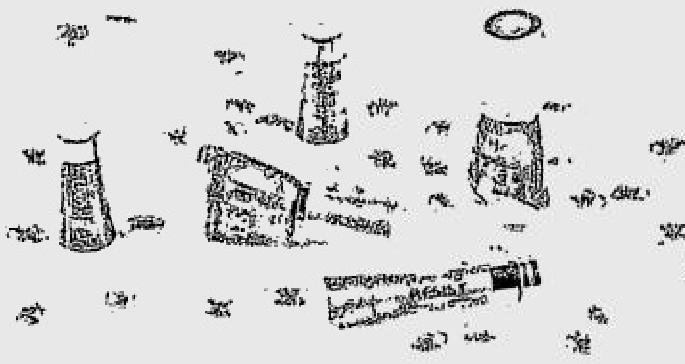
"Play with the elements of seduction—red lips, smoky eyes. waved hair," he says. "Revealing selected areas of skin refines everything to a very chic look."

For nighttime drama, he suggests focusing on the lips. "The eyes may be the windows of the soul, but this year it's all about those lips. For that femme fatale smile, dress lips in highly seductive reds and contrast them with eyes done in shimmering violets, shocking pinks or warm browns."

Eyes should be done subtly smoky, he adds, while cheekbones are highlighted in a natural way, leaving the mouth quite literally centerstage.

Be bold and brilliant with crystal shine color nail varnishes, he concludes.

IVARLUSKI Aseron military uniform dress. Long waved hair to offset the minimalist starkness of suit. Hair and makeup by Peddy Acebo using L'Oreal Paris Fatal Rouge look, Autumn Winter 2004



THE FATAL Rouge Collection: Glam Shine Fatal Red, Glam Shine Stylish Red, Jet Set Shine Fatal Red, Jet Set Shine Stylish Red and Color Resist Crystal Brown

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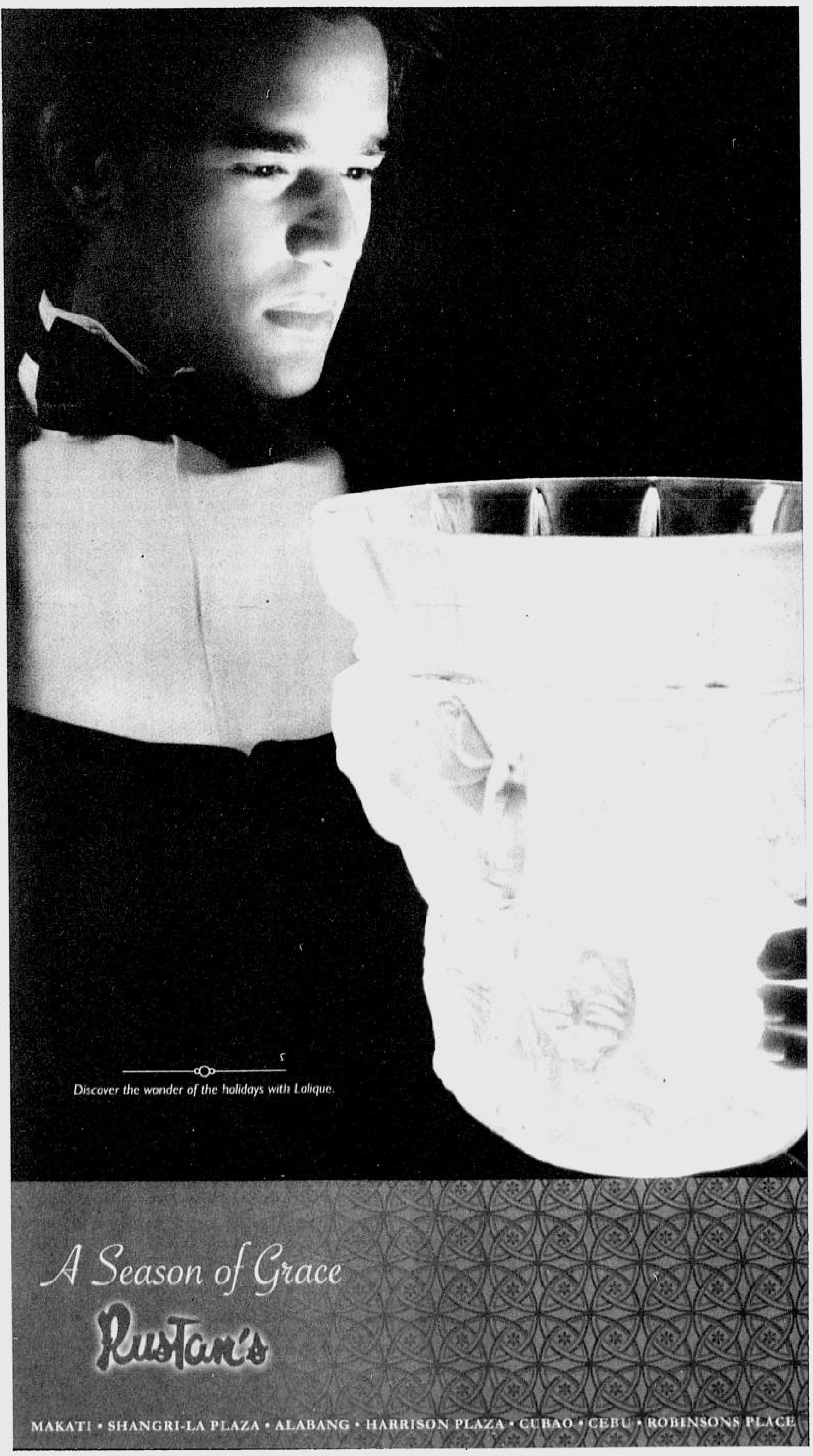
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BUSINESS magnates Bobby Cuenca and Fernando Zobel de Ayala

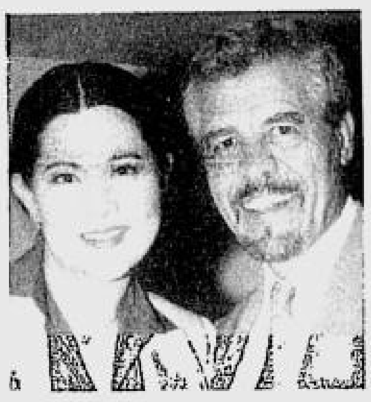
AT THE M Café after-party. Kitty Yoshida with the after-party host, Martin Wisniewski of M Café, and designer Kate Torralba

IN-DEMAND architect and interior designer Anton Mendoza and L'Oreal's Angelique Villaraza

GANG of three achievers. Carlo Pineda with Duty Free Phils.' Michael Kho and Carissa Coscolluela

AMONG the top bidders of the night were civic-oriented women Josephine del Gallego Knox and Evelyn Lim Forbes.

OLGA Azarcon of Diageo Phils., who provided us with all the drinks!



LOVE is a many-splendored thing. TV/movie star Ali Sotto and husband Omar Bsaies

BEAUTIFUL couple Louie and Jojo Ocampo

PHILIPPINE Tatler and Harrison Plaza's top woman Irene Martel-Francisco and renowned cardiologist Dr. Randy Francisco flanking one of the hostesses of the affair, Mons Romulo-Tantoco

NOKIA'S Joanne Racoma with super eye-catcher Raya Gonzalez

GARY Valenciano checks out the Hubtrons.

ORGANIZERS of the bazaar are seven dynamic, civic-minded women: Linda Villadelgado, project chair Fanny Blanco, president Celine Bautista; (standing) Pilie Aquino, consul Fortune Ledesma, Chit Gohu and Lita Gelano

Cosmetics for a worthy cause

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache

Photos by **Alex Van Hagen** on **Kodak Max**

INTERNATIONALLY renowned Japanese makeup brand Shu Uemura launched its limited-edition Cleansing Oils by top-of-the-line artist **Al Yamaguchi**, known for her retro, yet modern style in painting.

The cosmetic brand seeks to combine the worlds of beauty, art and fashion. That is somehow reflected in the launch venue, the new Ayala Museum. Proceeds of the show will go to a worthy project to assist poor children.

Shu Uemura and the Center for Excellence in Public Elementary Education of the Ayala Foundation celebrated its first of a kind happening, to help further develop Centex's 1,000 children by exposing them to art.

Explaining the tie-up between Ayala and Uemura were Centex spokesperson **Kitkat Zobel**; director **Carol Atacado**; and Shu Uemura brand manager **Tina Tinio**.

The invitees enjoyed immensely the cocktail and food from the popular Zen Restaurant as we were all encouraged to bid for premium Shu Uemura and Yamaguchi works, as well as works done for Centex by top artists **Anita Magsaysay-Ho**, **Mauro Malang** and **Romulo Galicano**, no less, *palanggas*.

I started the bidding, and soon the price had gone over P15,000 for the Magsaysay-Ho ceramic plate and Yamaguchi lithograph, while Shu Uemura's so sooooft and gorgeous Makeup Brush was sold for over P20,000 from the original P8,000 starting bid. At the end of the night, Shu Uemura was able to raise over P100,000 for Centex. Not bad, huh!

During the after-party hosted by M Museum Café, *moi* zeroed in on L'Oreal Philippines' beautiful *famille*, led by its new, hot managing director, the tres-tres charmant **David Ennes**, radiant **Leica Carpo**, **Angelique Villaraza** and **Celine Gabriel**. *Moi* was also able to catch Shu Uemura's chief makeup artist, the eye-catching Southern gal **Xeng Zulueta**.

"Creativity Without Boundaries" was a night that merged artists, the fashion set, beauty enthusiasts and hotshot businessmen together. And hey, whether they dressed up or down, the goal was to help others.

Feast of cell phones

And the battle of the cell phones continues, *palanggas*, especially now that Christmas is around the corner. This time, the party pack and the executive sector were invited to a *tres* special dinner hosted by Globe Platinum, Nokia and Pepato restaurant at Greenbelt 2-Makati.

The chosen invitees feasted on the exquisite menu, courtesy of chef extraordinaire **Margarita Fores**, *natch*, that featured an eight-course meal of epicure meat and fish cuisine, drowned by excellent wines from Bacchus International.

Super hotshots—from Globe Telecom's **Gerry Ablaza**, **Ferdz de la Cruz**, **Lizanne Uychaco**, **Manny Aligada** and **Nikki Santiago**, to Nokia's **Parikshit Bhasin**—were present.

Namedroppables were there, such as **Cesar Buenaventura**, **OV Espiritu**, **Paquito Dizon** and **Sen. Mar Roxas**; the broadcast world's **Korina Sanchez**, **Ces Drilon**, **Karen Davila**, and **Cory Quirino**; businessman **George Siy**, entertainer **Edu Manzano**, ADB's **Martin Tornberg** and **Karen Kelly** and **Omar Bsaies** of the US Embassy.

Some of Manille's creamiest of the cream set were all *tres* visible, thanks to **Mons Romulo Tantoco**, glam gal **Ching Cruz**, pretty **Berna Romulo-Puyat**, best-dressed gal **Sigalit Djemal**; Firma's **Chito Vijandre** and **Ricky Toledo**; **Alex Lichaytoo**; gorgeous bag designer **Bea Valdes**; good-looking business achiever **Archie Rodriguez**; and gent for all seasons **Raul Manzano**.

They dug into the yummy dinner while enjoying cool jazz by tenor saxophonist **Vince Lahorra**.

ANC news anchor, super head-turner **Pinky Webb**, looking fab after a trip to Hawaii, emceed.

A special preview of the upcoming sleek Nokia 6260 and Nokia 9500 Communicator, was presented. The guests sampled the new Trons handsets, as Globe's tech-savvy spokesmodels helped everyone test the gadgets.

HOTSHOT ladies. Centex's dedicated spokesperson Kitkat Zobel and Shu Uemura's brilliant brand manager Tina Tinio

BEAUTIFUL couple who cares. Chris Feist with his wife, Cocoon's talented designer Katrina Goulbourn

HIS and hers. L'Oreal Phils.' new managing director, David Ennes, and Kerastase's Tessa Dragon

SEN. Mar Roxas and Parikshit Bhasin

FROM ABS-CBN Publishing, Philip Cu-unjieng

ENTREPRENEUR Karen Santos

Charity bazaar

Would you believe another bazaar is about to take place? Only this one has imported apples to be given for free to the first 100 buyers and the rest will be on sale at P1 each.

The Venture 7 Christmas Bazaar will take place this Sunday, Dec. 5, at the Grand Ballroom of Hotel InterContinental, Makati, from 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Guests of honor will be Dr. Elenita Binay, spouse of Makati Mayor **Jejomar Binay**, and Gina de Venecia, wife of Speaker Jose de Venecia.

Organizers are seven dynamic business- and civic-minded women, namely Celine Bautista (president), **Fanny Blanco** (project chair) **Linda Villadelgado**, **Lita Gelano**, **Fortune Ledesma**, **Pilie Aquino** and **Chit Gohu**. This group has been involved in many successful Christmas bazaars and fund-raising activities.

Most of the products of the bazaar participants are export overruns. Items range from imported ladies to children's wear, maids uniforms, kitchenware, Christmas decor and other items from Israel, Greece, Italy, China, Vietnam, Thailand and UK, no less, *palanggas*.

There will be a door prize every hour.

The proceeds will go to the Mahaveer Foundation Inc. (which provides artificial legs to the disabled), Makabata Foundation and other charities.

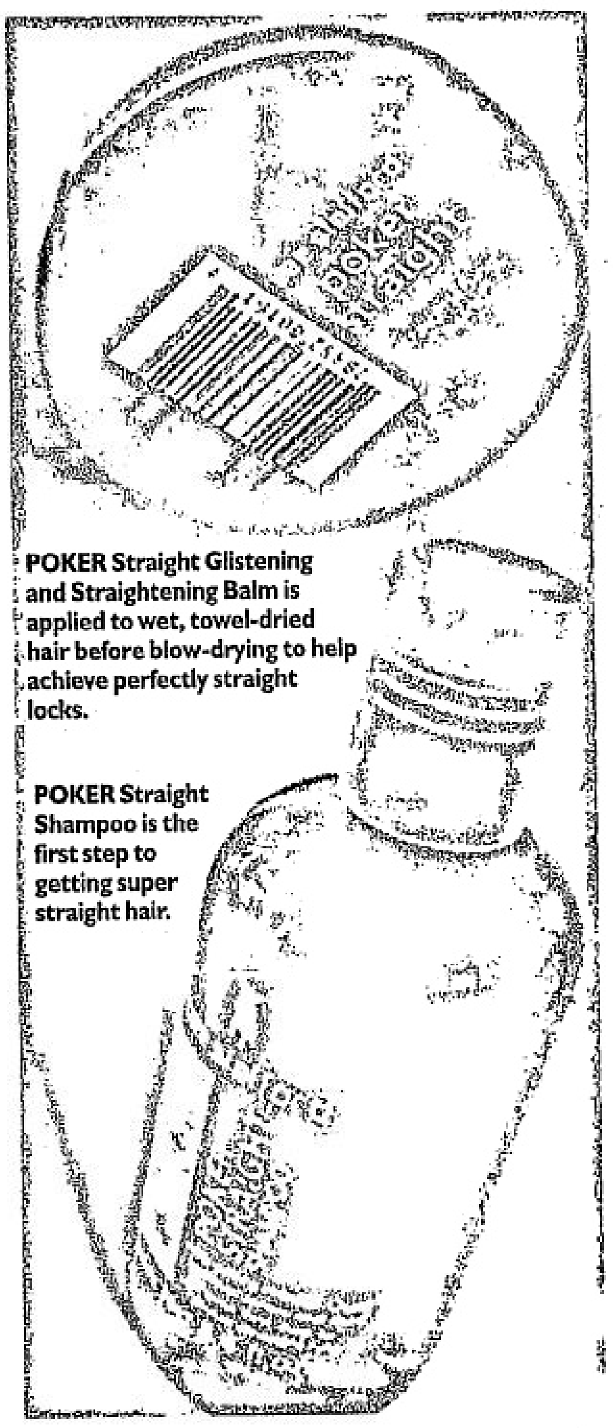
Call 8439507 or 8193307.

Erratum:

In the wedding articles that came out in the Lifestyle section last month: the Ignacio-Limon nuptials and the Calleja-Ticzon nuptials, the photos were taken by Alex Van Hagen.

HIP achievers. Exotic beauty Bledes Fores, *guapo* Luis Terry, Pepato's Margarita Fores, Dream Bar's Ito Feliciano and top designer Rhett Eala

Straight hair the easy way



POKER Straight Glistening and Straightening Balm is applied to wet, towel-dried hair before blow-drying to help achieve perfectly straight locks.

POKER Straight Shampoo is the first step to getting super straight hair.

BRITAIN'S popular celebrity hairstylist Lee Stafford has created a new hair care line that promises to tame frizzy, wavy, curly and fly-away hair into submission.

Stafford has made a name for himself as a hip, young grooming guru of sorts specializing in creative, cutting-edge looks. In true Lee Stafford style, his product range is nothing less than fashionably funky with its distinctive neon pink bottles and unique colorful barcodes.

Poker Straight was created for those who want salon-straight tresses in a few easy steps. Poker Straight Shampoo and Conditioner gently cleanse and soften hair, and make a great prelude for further styling. The added Mega Quat helps flatten hair and leaves it shiny and smelling extra sweet.

Before blow-drying, Stafford recommends using Poker Straight glistening and straightening balm on wet, towel-dried hair. Just a little goes a long way in controlling fly-away hair.

For those who go for the added polish of a flat-iron look, spritz on Poker Straight Flat Iron Protective Shine Mist before going over each section of the hair with the iron. The added green tea extract provides extra protection against heat damage that can result from continued use of hair tools.

If the weather is wreaking havoc on your hair, fight back with Lee Stafford's Poker Straight Dehumidifier to stop hair from fluffing in cold weather and frizzing in tropical climates.

Lee Stafford is exclusively available at Essenses.

POKER Straight Flat Iron Protective Shine Mist with antioxidant green tea extract provides extra protection against heat damage.

FOR hair that looks extra glossy and radiant, try Lee Stafford's ShineHead.

JAO box set also includes Facial Moisture.

Moisturizing hand sanitizer

JAO Hand Refresher is the first anti-bacterial hand sanitizer and botanical cleanser in the market.

Unlike other hand sanitizers, it is enriched with aloe vera, lavender, eucalyptus, tea tree and other essential oils that soothe and soften skin. The moisturizer makes it a non-drying formula suitable even for a baby's delicate skin.

Jao may also be used as a makeup remover or astringent for acne-prone skin.

The product is also an anti-bacterial cleanser as it is alcohol-based. Studies indicate that alcohol-based hand sanitizers may reduce by as much as 59 percent the spread of germs that can cause flu and other illnesses.

Jao comes in handy 8-oz. and 4-oz. bottles, and convenient travel-size packets. It is exclusively available at Essenses in Makati.

JAO Hand Refresher in handy 2 oz. bottle

Christmas gift of beauty

GIVE something different this Christmas.

David's Salon offers the gift of beauty this season with gift cards that will entitle the recipient to some of the services offered by the establishment—from facial spa treatments to the latest hair color styles.

The Gift Cards, priced at P200, P500 and P1,000, can be used for any of David's wide variety of beauty services in any of its 171 branches nationwide. David's Salon founder David Charlton said the gift would help remind recipients to pamper and recharge themselves and be at their very best for the holidays.

The Gift Cards are available at all David's Salon branches. You may also call the head office at 8974247.

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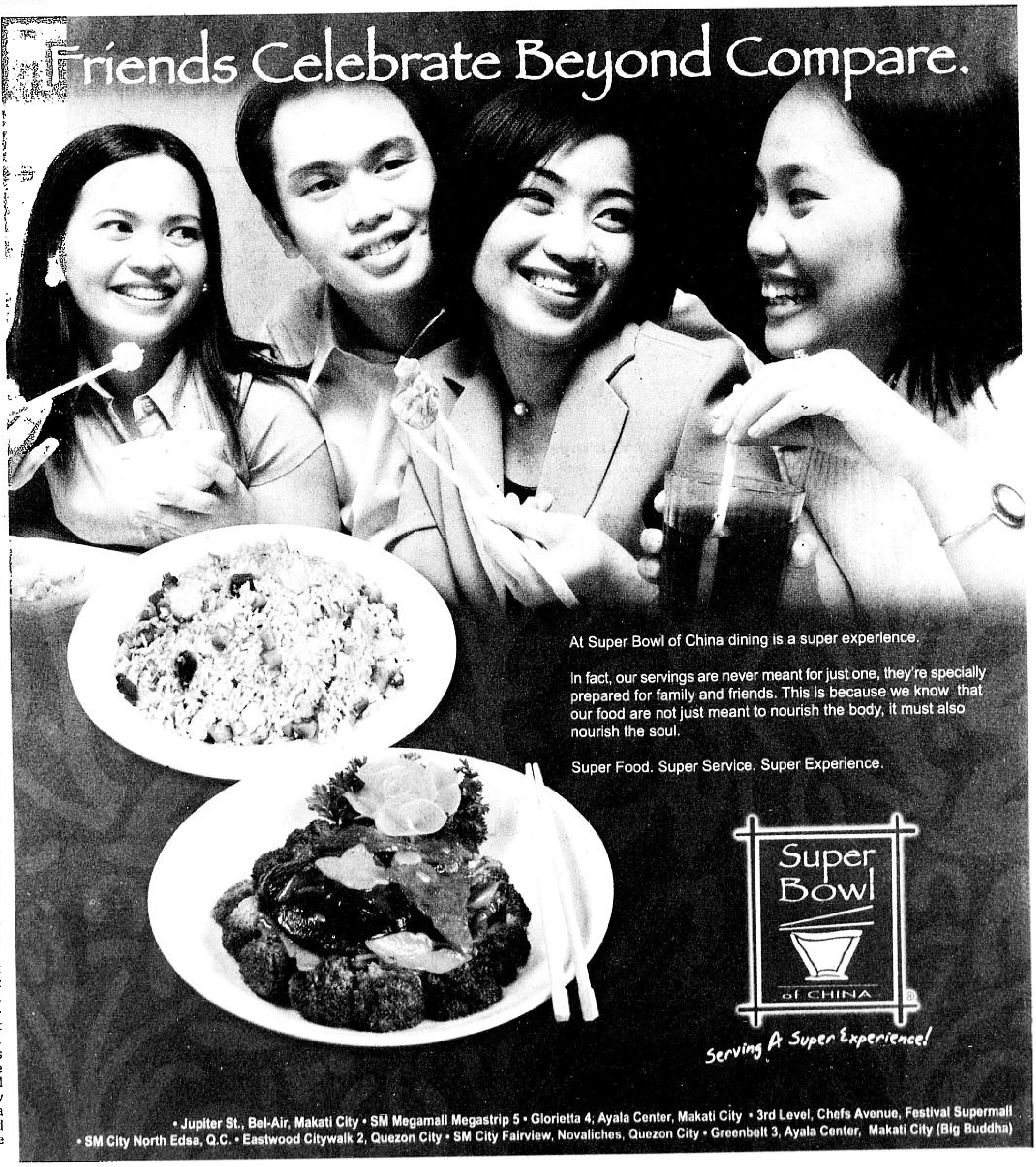
CLARITY, the aesthetic and laser center, and the Bank of Philippine Islands (BPI) have teamed up to give clients an early Christmas present.

Avail of zero-percent interest on all Clarity services and packages by using your BPI credit card.

The offer will apply to a minimum transaction of P3,000 and a maximum of six monthly repayment terms. It covers all dermatological, surgical, dental and weight management services.

Visit Clarity's branches at the Shangri-La Plaza Mall (9104955), SM City North Edsa (9269235), and Robinsons Place Manila (5284547).



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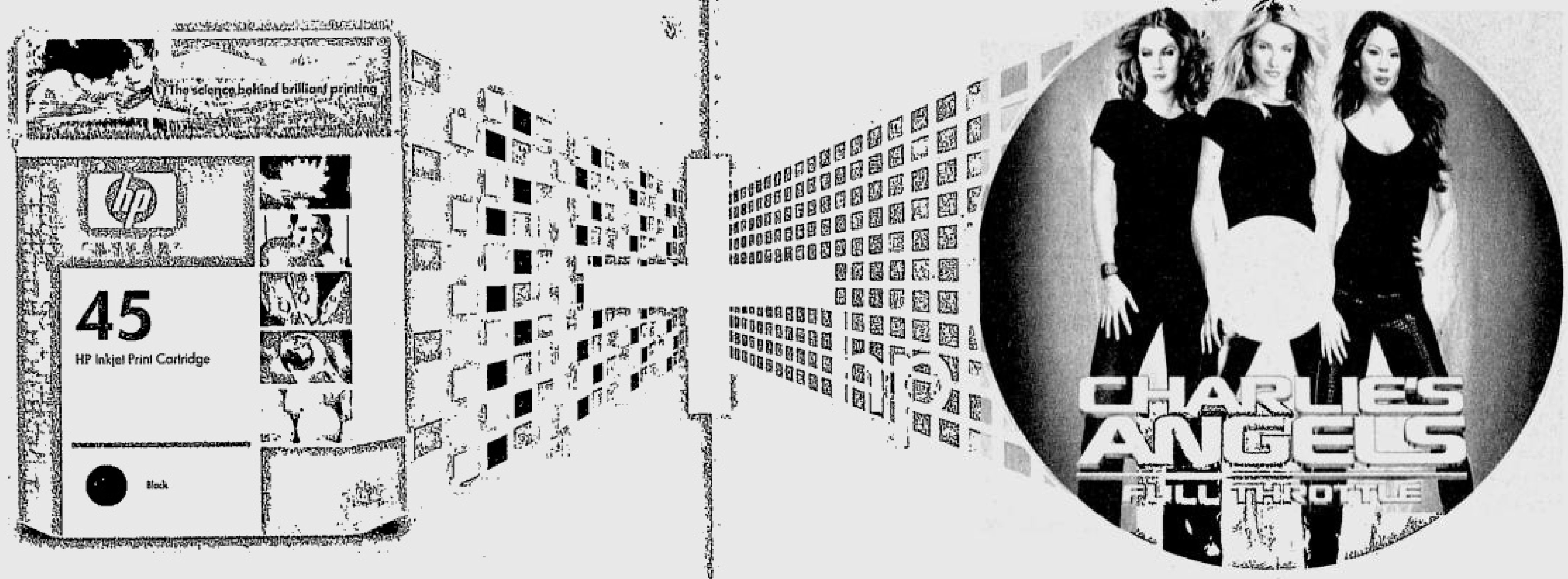
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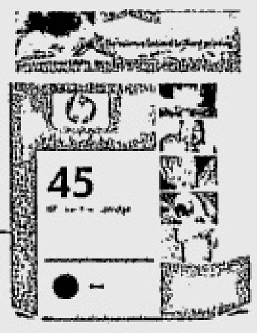
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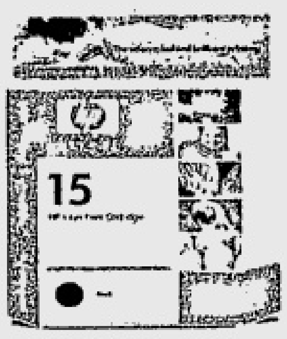
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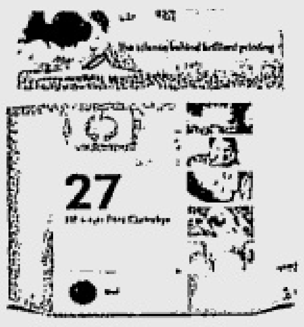
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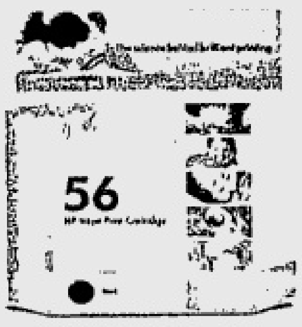
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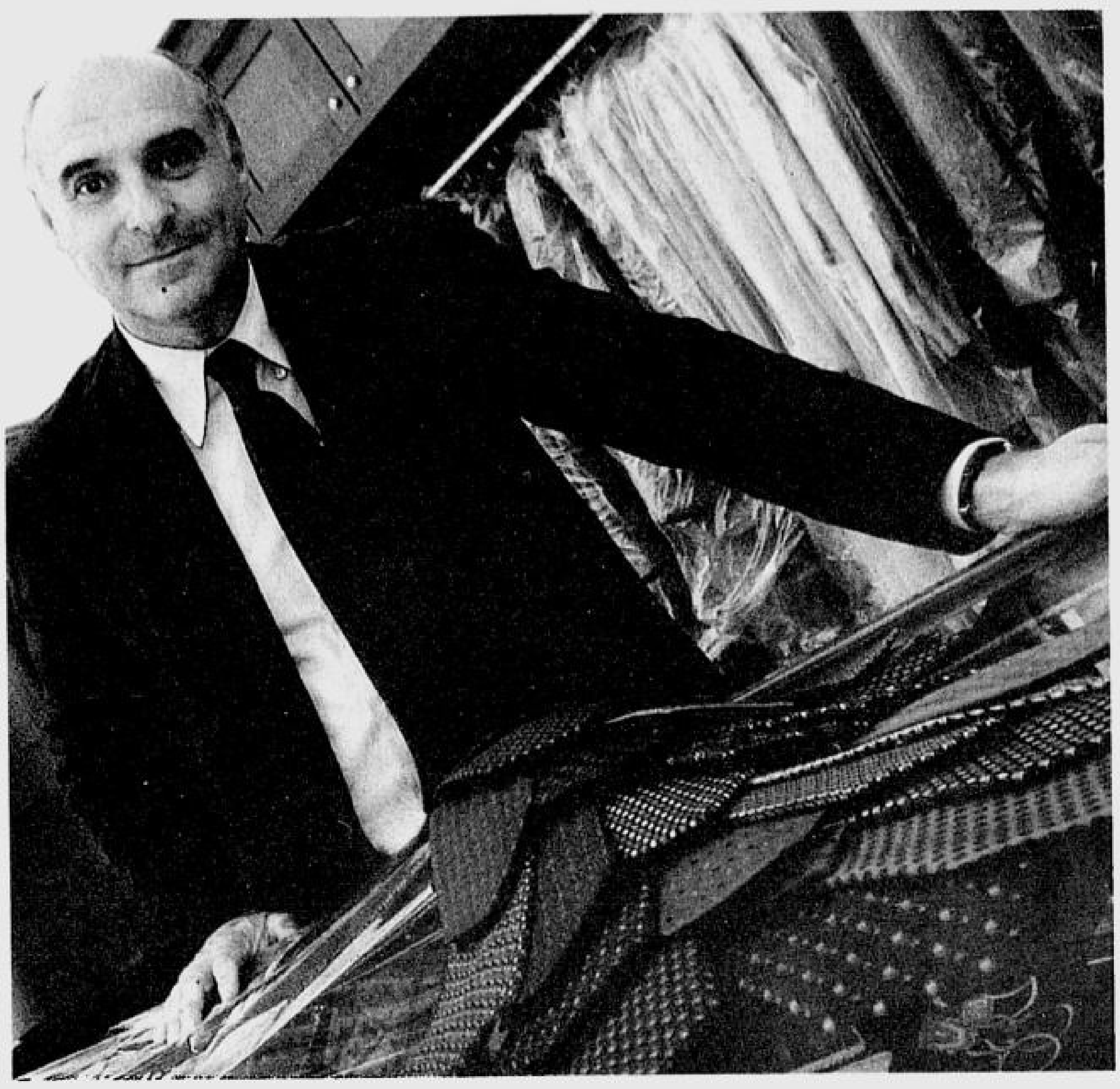
Emperor of ties



ITALIAN tie designer Maurizio Marinella poses in his shop in Naples. Three generations of tie designers—Eugenio, Luigi and Maurizio Marinella—still seduce important political and cultural figures such as John Kennedy, Bill Clinton, Luchino Visconti and Aristotle Onassis after 90 years in the business. AFP

NAPLES, Italy—What do John F. Kennedy, Jacques Chirac and Mikhail Gorbachev have in common? Ask the Marinella family, who have been creating neckties for the rich and famous for the last 90 years.

The family's products have adorned the necks of politicians, noblemen, tycoons, artists and poets. A new book will shortly show the world what a Marinella tie looks like, with the proceeds going to charity.

Who's who

Both Republican Presidents George H. W. Bush and George W. Bush, and their Democratic counterparts John F. Kennedy and Bill Clinton have been clients. Closer to home, French Presidents François Mitterrand and Jacques Chirac, and Russian leader Mikhail Gorbachev have sported Marinella products.

The business is now run by founder Eugenio Marinella's grandson Maurizio, who says the secret of success lies in the fact that there is only one tie and accessories shop in Naples deeply rooted in the culture of the city.

"All our clients come to Naples," said Maurizio who, like his grandfather and father Luigi, started at an early age in the business.

> 'Thanks to the knot, one can understand a great deal about someone's personality, mood and soul'

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Wealth of ideas

The business overlooking the bay of Naples was founded by Eugenio in 1914. He was not

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The Rustan's FLOWER shop bon appetit

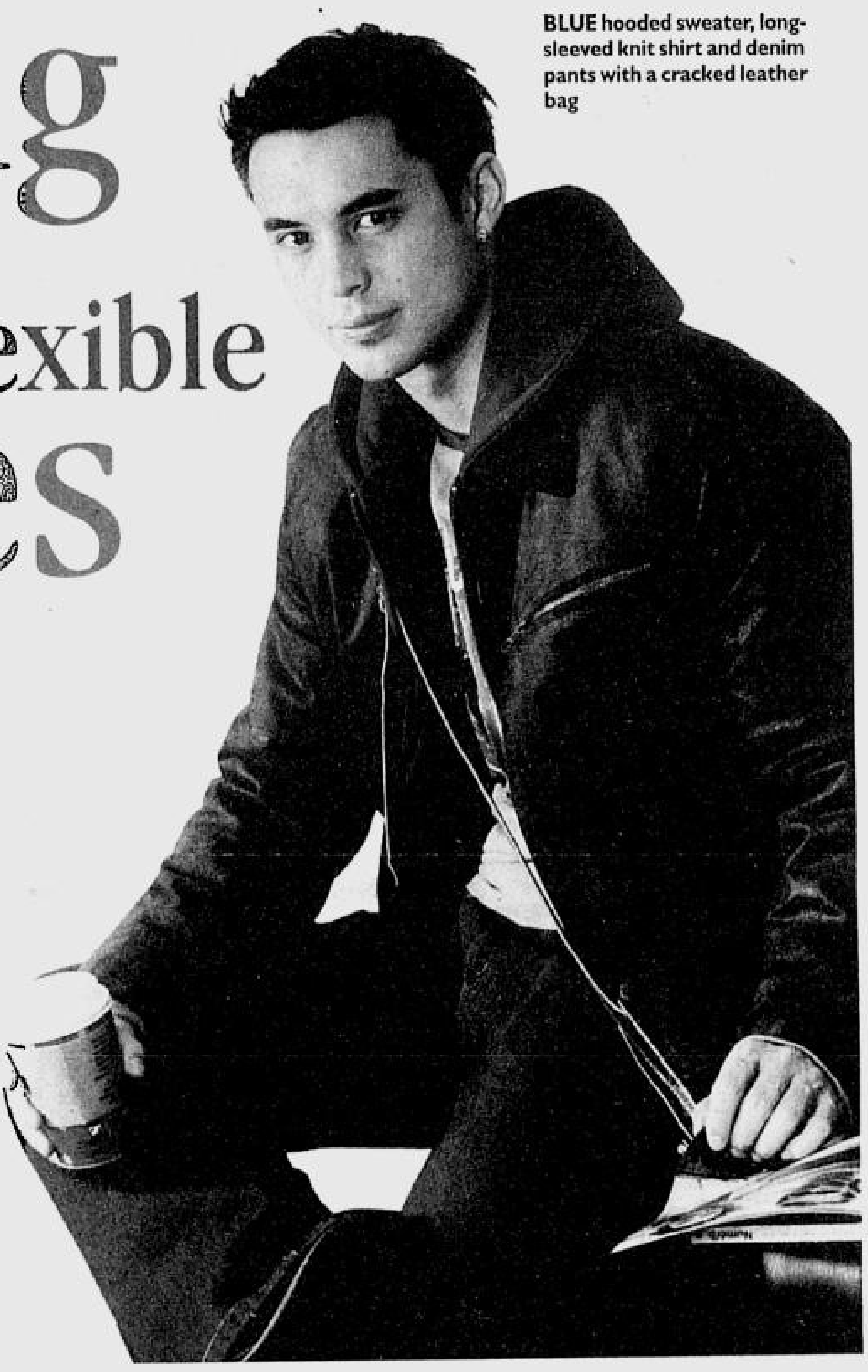
BRAD in hooded sweater, long-sleeved knit shirt and cream/brown cap with piping

TJ in striped satin long-sleeved, black leather jacket, suit (blazer not worn), printed necktie and black leather bag. Brad in striped long-sleeve, black leather jacket, poplin cotton trousers and black messenger bag

CAMOUFLAGE jacket with piping, classic long-sleeved checkered and blue shirt

Young urbanites spring for flexible styles

FULL zipped knitted sweater, vertical-cut tee, polo pique and jeans



BLUE hooded sweater, long-sleeved knit shirt and denim pants with a cracked leather bag

TWO of today's heartthrobs dress up like the young urbanites that they are with the help of Springfield, the popular Spanish brand.

Brad Turvey says he likes things simple, including his fashion style. He prefers clothes that are comfortable but also stylish. He goes for the basics—good fit, solid colors, a combination of casual and formal wear.

"Magandang Umaga Bayan" host TJ Manotoc likes pieces that he can mix and match, giving him flexibility in his wardrobe. He likes cool and comfortable, easy, good quality, and affordable clothes.

For both, Springfield, the brand for the urban male, has become the choice as it combines style, functionality and comfort.

Turvey says he can't live without cap, jeans, t-shirt, dress shirt, and rubber shoes. Manotoc adds shorts to the list. Since they wear these items everyday, they put a premium on durability and comfort.

For its Fall/Winter collection, Springfield has come up with three lines inspired by today's multifaceted man.

University and college wear include rugby t-shirts, sport jackets, ribbed and oxford shirts, sweat shirts, denims, cotton trousers, and sport rubber-soled shoes. A splash of colors complements basic nude, black and whites. Rich greens and yellows and reds and blues add spirit. Key pieces include open funnel neck shirts, knit shirts with nylon and polyester, striped jackets and corduroys.

Turvey says he likes the hooded sweaters, body bags, denims and jackets.

The Grunge look, on the other hand, has a washed and worn-out finish. Key pieces include poplin shirts, natural leather jackets, denim and cotton trousers, multi-prints, and parkas. Muted hues are blended with orange, red and golden yellow. Checks are also making a big comeback, with stripes not far behind.

Manotoc goes for cargo pants, sling bags, short- and long-sleeved polos, round neck shirts, jeans and jackets that complement his lifestyle.

More reserved and elegant, the City look has a range of pin-striped jackets, motorcycle jackets, suits, dress shirts, and an assortment of geometric, floral and psychedelic ties. The look is more urban with black, white, gray and ice dominating the palette.

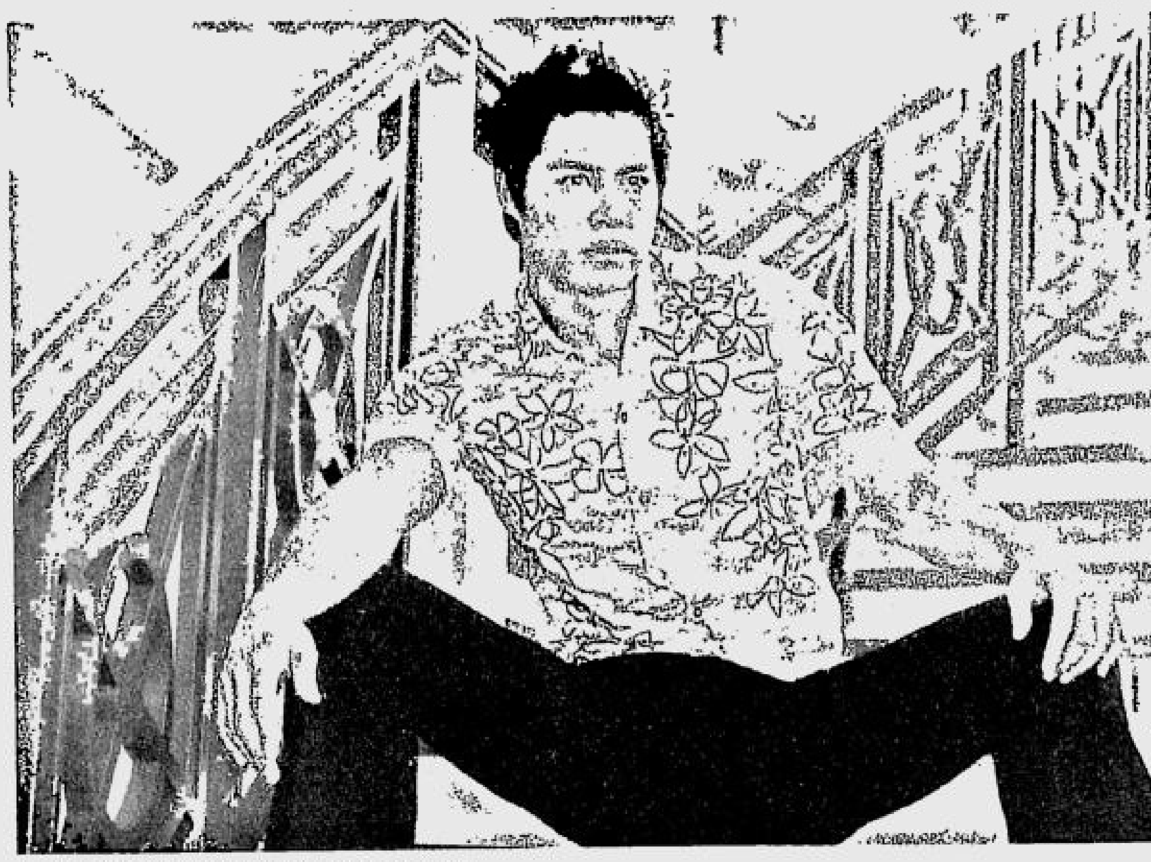
Graffiti shirts complement the structured blazers. Knitwear is accented with metallic snaps, shirts are blended with technical fabrication, and silhouettes are narrower.

Springfield is exclusively distributed by Stores Specialists Inc. and located at Greenbelt 3, Rockwell Powerplant Mall, Rustan's Makati, Robinson's Place Manila and SM Megamall.

BRAD in long-sleeved checkered, printed green long sleeve knit shirt, beige sport trouser and red cap with piping; TJ in long-sleeved brown checkered shirt, long-sleeved knit shirt and canvas jacket

TJ in blue hooded sweater, white short-sleeved knit shirt, navy-blue trousers and white/red overnight bag and red cap. Brad in zip-up knitted sweater, round-neck tee, beige cotton trousers and red overnight bag

CLASSIC long-sleeved checked and blue shirt



FLOWER power never looked this good or this manly. White/brown flowered polo shirt (P3,795), pants (P3,495)

Macho twists

THE LATEST collection from Greyhound features bold new colors as well as basic black, white and olive with attitude. Stylish twists include macho florals and two-toned shirts.

In the Philippines, Greyhound is located at Level 3, Greenbelt 4, Ayala Center, Makati City.

MODEL: ZAN JOE MARUDO
STYLING: KEREN PASCUAL
PHOTOS: PATRICK UY
SHOT ON LOCATION ON BOARD
THE SUPERSTAR VIRGO

ZAN JOE in olive Army brat polo (P3,995) and pants (P3,495)

OLIVE TWIST. A spot of olive on the collar livens up an otherwise plain white shirt. Shirt (P3,795), black pants (P3,495)

BLACK and white is all right. Zanjoe in black shirt with white collar (P2,995) and pin-stripped pants (P3,495)

Emperor...

From page E1

rich but he had a wealth of ideas. Now, a Marinella tie is as Neapolitan as pizza or "O Sole Mio."

"A Marinella tie is not a fashion item: it's something that lasts forever," said Neapolitan writer Luciano de Crescenzo.

"We open every day at 6:30 a.m. so customers can come before the pressure of work," said Maurizio, who insists his 13 staff "be of good character, cheerful and optimistic."

The knot

The 90th anniversary book will be made up of black and white photographs, taken by Fredy Marcarini, of the knots of 50 ties created for international political, industrial, artistic and show business celebrities.

"Thanks to the knot one can understand a great deal about someone's personality, mood and soul," said Maurizio.

"You could almost say, 'Tell me how you knot your tie and I'll tell you who you are,'" he said.

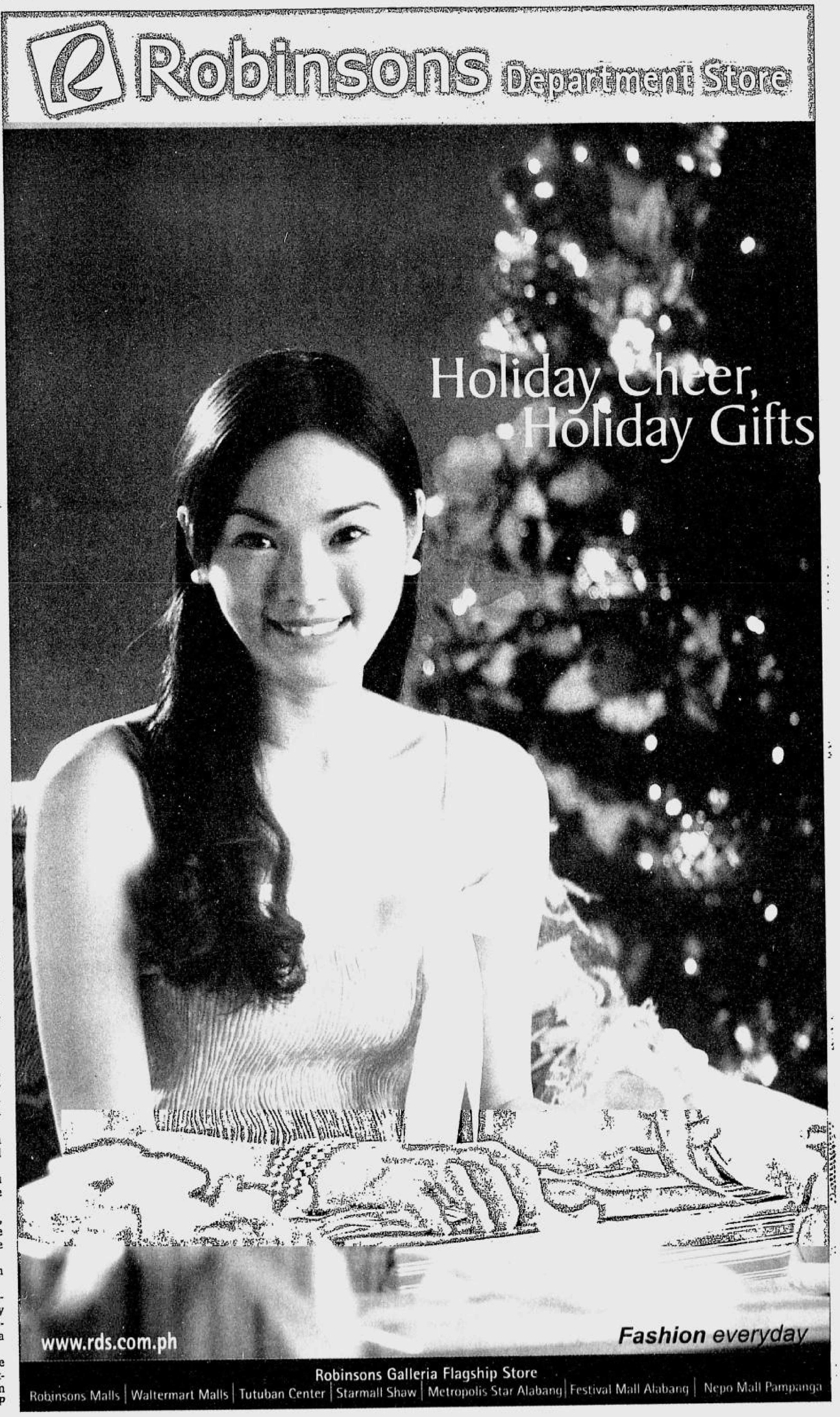
He has no prejudice about color or style, large or small size, silk or cashmere. But the customer will need 90 euros (US$115) if he wants to leave the shop with one.

"My dream used to be to open a shop in Paris like the one in Naples," he said.

"I found a place opposite the Georges V hotel (off the Champs Elysées) I wanted to buy but the owners didn't want to sell. So the hotel offered me a small space to establish a presence and we sell 50 ties a month there."

He also has a showroom in Milan in the north of Italy but has resisted plans to expand, preferring to remain "the king of ties in Naples."

AFP



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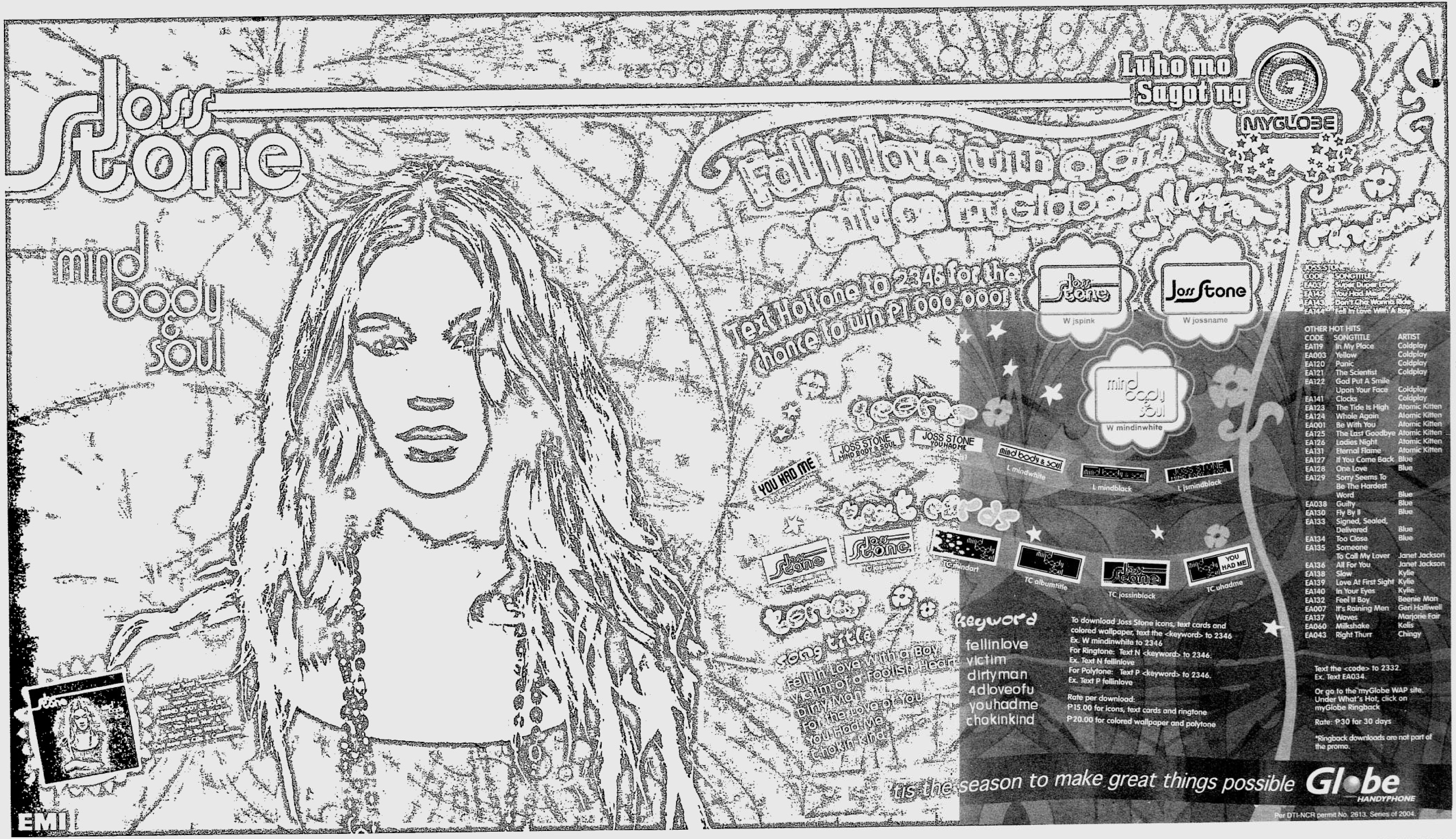

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CODE	SONGTITLE	ARTIST
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EA003	Yellow	Coldplay
EA120	Panic	Coldplay
EA121	The Scientist	Coldplay
EA122	God Put A Smile Upon Your Face	Coldplay
EA141	Clocks	Coldplay
EA123	The Tide Is High	Atomic Kitten
EA124	Whole Again	Atomic Kitten
EA001	Be With You	Atomic Kitten
EA125	The Last Goodbye	Atomic Kitten
EA126	Ladies Night	Atomic Kitten
EA131	Eternal Flame	Atomic Kitten
EA127	If You Come Back	Blue
EA128	One Love	Blue
EA129	Sorry Seems To Be The Hardest Word	Blue
EA038	Guilty	Blue
EA130	Fly By II	Blue
EA133	Signed, Sealed, Delivered	Blue
EA134	Too Close	Blue
EA135	Someone To Call My Lover	Janet Jackson
EA136	All For You	Janet Jackson
EA138	Slow	Kylie
EA139	Love At First Sight	Kylie
EA140	In Your Eyes	Kylie
EA132	Feel It Boy	Beenie Man
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RENÉE Zellweger
as Bridget Jones

You can now get the 'Bridget Jones' look

WHILE watching "Titanic," I wanted to find out what foundation Kate Winslet used. It turned out it was Max Factor's Lasting Performance in Champagne.

MAKEOVER 911

Kinny Salas

Max Factor (MF) has done it for me again after I saw the "Bridget Jones" trailer. I was thrilled when MF sent me the same foundation and mascara shade Renée Zellweger used. It sent me the same lipstick line but in a different shade.

The foundation is from the new Color Adapt line and the shade used on Renée was Natural. The line comes in shades that go sheer, covering a wide range of skin tones.

Renée's mascara was More Lashes Waterproof in Black, which really stayed put during her scene at the sea.

Two different shades of Lipfinity Everlites were used: Tickled, a beige pink for day; and Alluring, a deeper plum shade for evening. Honestly, I was never a fan of the original Lipfinity line as it left my lips as dry as biscotti. Everlites leaves a sheer glossy finish that lasts longer than any gloss I know of. Till the time it fades there is no chapping or grainy feel. That's saying a lot as I have the driest lips around.

The lip shades didn't give me the same effect as the ones Renée used though due to our obvious difference in coloring. I found that effect with the shade Cherish (mauve rose) instead.

Other Renée colors: for day—Natural Satin Blush in Naturelle, Inca Bronze and Almond eyeshadow; for evening—Midnight Mauve Blush and Stormy Blue Earth Spirits eyeshadow.

Did you know that the entire cast of "The Stepford Wives" used Shu Uemura?

Lara Flynn Boyle as Serleena in "Men in Black II" used Shu Uemura makeup as well.

Shu Uemura's new line for Fall/Winter is called "Chic and Rouge Christmas."

My favorite picks: Sweet Lip gloss in Jasmine Gold and Amber Gold at P895 each.

The latter can be worn alone by most as it has a reddish tinge while Jasmine gold is best on top of lipstick or can only be worn alone successfully by one who is tanned for that sexy golden pout.

The limited-edition lipstick 135 is in gorgeous pink with pearly gold; it has Chinese embroidery design on the cover, for P1,225.

The eyeshadow palette in Brilliant Glow (golden brown and bright yellow) costs P2,400. Instead of blush, the line uses Luster Gold Powder, P2,175, for a golden glow on the face and body, giving the illusion of smooth perfection.

Last but not the least is the Brush Set worth P5,750, which has four travel size brushes: cheek, eye shadow, eyeliner brush and eyebrow in a beautiful leather pouch.

My foundation is the new Water Perfect Liquid for that dewy sexy look.

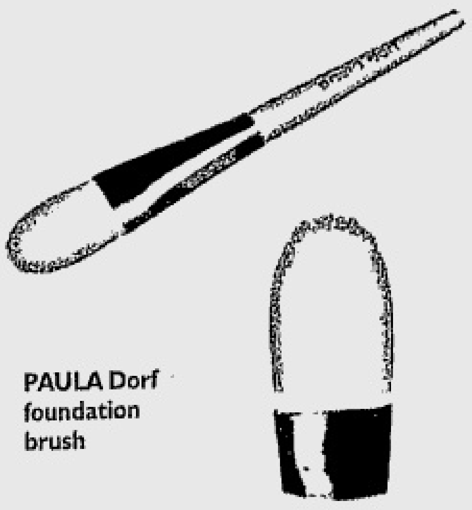
Budget cosmetics for the young

I have not forgotten my younger readers on a budget. I have a bias toward Japanese brands, especially when it comes to foundation, powder and concealer.

Today's teens are lucky because Kose, the company that made Awake and Sekki Sei, are considerate enough to make the Fasio line: quality skincare and makeup to suit a teen's needs.

I highly recommend the Fit and Stay foundation in liquid, P425, and powder, P495, which is

YOU/ F4



PAULA Dorf foundation brush

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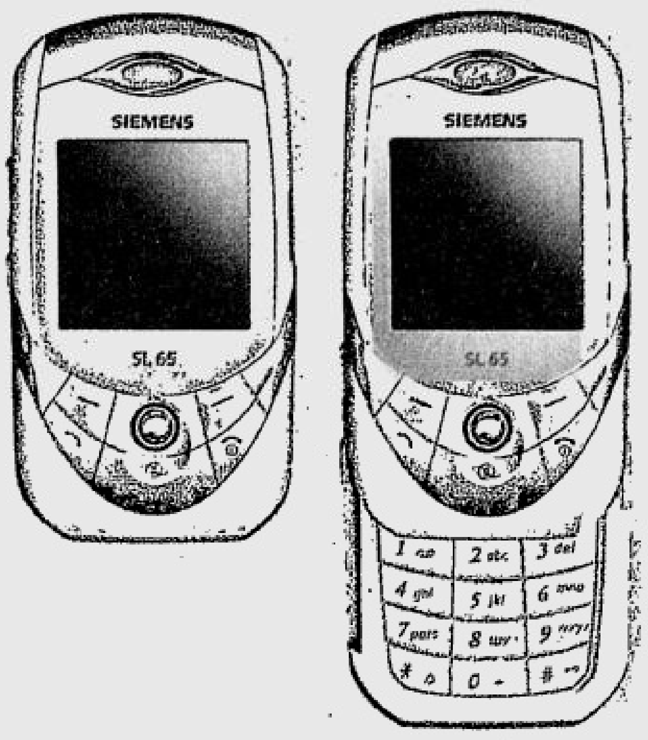

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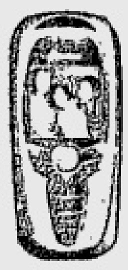

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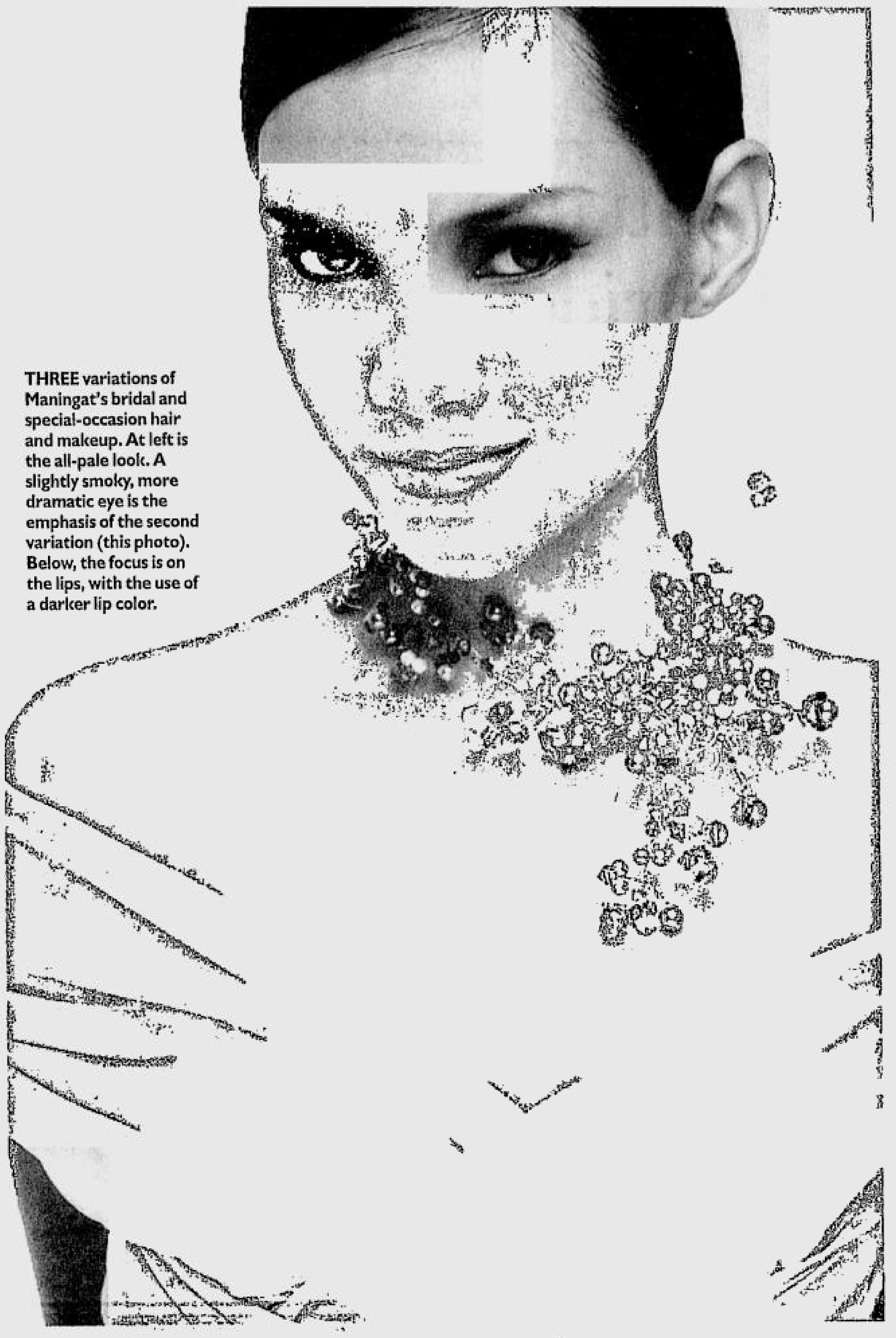


THREE variations of Maningat's bridal and special-occasion hair and makeup. At left is the all-pale look. A slightly smoky, more dramatic eye is the emphasis of the second variation (this photo). Below, the focus is on the lips, with the use of a darker lip color.

A nomad comes home

Hair and makeup artist Eric Maningat joins Studio 546

By Cheche V. Moral

HE'S finally found a home where everyone's welcome to visit.

Brilliant hair and makeup artist Eric Maningat, after spending 19 years of nomadic professional journey, has decided to park his makeup brushes—and in one very tony address, at that.

"He came highly recommended," says Yvette Ilagan, owner of Studio 546 (5/L Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Mandaluyong City; tel. 6383956/3954). "[Photographer] Claudine Sia said he's very professional and very good. He was already well known, but I didn't know him that well, though he used to do my makeup. But I was assured I won't have problems with him."

In August, Ilagan and her siblings launched Studio 546, with Maningat as artistic director. Maningat is at the helm of an 18-member staff.

"I'm very happy I've found a home," Maningat says in Filipino. "When I was still in Cavite, I felt like my life was going nowhere. So I began working freelance. The problem was, I had to do everything, including negotiating with clients. Now a secretary does that for me."

As an added bonus—and responsibility—Maningat was named VP for marketing of Trendset Corp., the company that operates Studio 546. "What they (salon owners) offered me was very good, so I said yes," he explains.

Collaborations

Maningat's modest beginnings started in Bacoor, Cavite, where he was a neighborhood beautician for 12 years. After closing shop, he spent the next seven years running around like a headless chicken, doing the runway, editorial and advertising circuits as a freelance stylist.

Little by little, he made his name, working with known figures such as makeup artist Patrick Rosas, photographers Wig Tysmans, Jun de Leon and Neil Oshima, and designers Inno Sotto, Rajo Laurel. He's done his magic on the countless pretty faces that have graced billboards, magazines and newspaper pages.

In the fashion scene, Maningat is known for his speed and deft, his unassuming manner belying his exceptional talent.

Maningat admits he's actually become busier the past three months because, in addition to his work in the salon, he still does the usual rounds of the runways and fashion editorials. He's still in-demand for weddings and special occasions. "The good thing is that, my schedule goes through the salon now. I no longer have to bargain with clients."

Though his freelance work was lucrative, as he had his own loyal A-list clientele, Maningat says, deep within, he was searching for a permanent venue where he could truly hone his craft.

Deluxe service

Studio 546 is for men and women who are looking for deluxe salon service, according to Ilagan. As first-time salon owners, Ilagan and her siblings wanted a shop that's not only service-oriented but also has an already respected name in the hair-and-makeup scene, thus its artistic director.

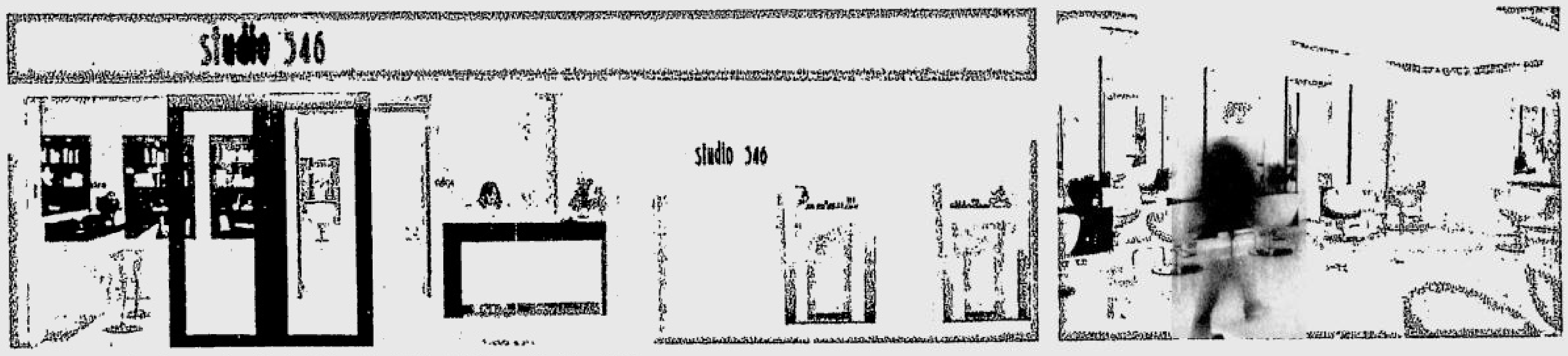
Ilagan, with the help of an architect, is responsible for the salon's classy all-white interiors. She wanted a very modern "but not cold" look. To offset the starkness of the shop, she added soft, billowy curtains, also in white. Potted plants and cut fresh flowers are added as accents. "I didn't want it to look intimidating. It had to be welcoming. You don't have to be someone famous to get a deluxe service."

Given the added perks of their services—back rub with your haircut; cold towel over the eyes while getting shampooed—the owner says their rates are very competitive. A haircut with the junior stylist, for instance, is P400. A haircut by Maningat is the most expensive at P700, several hundreds lower than other stylists his stature.

"Many people don't know that I cut hair," he says. "I cut hair for 12 years before I started doing hair and makeup."

Maningat studied at Slim's in the '80s. He also worked and trained in Hong Kong's Salon de Orient. He learned makeup from Shiseido.

E-mail the author at cmoral@inquirer.com.ph



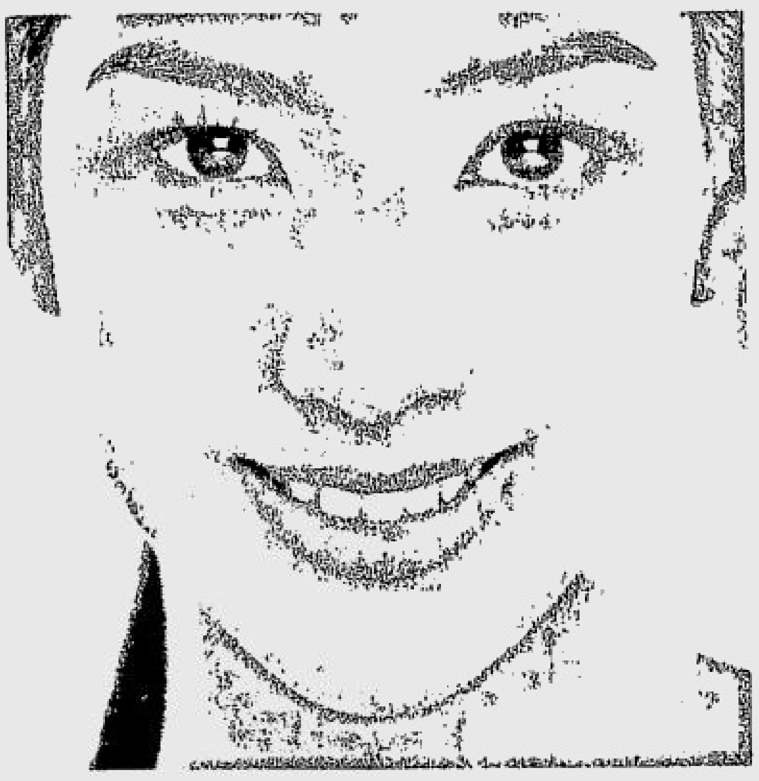
THE STARK white, ultra-modern Studio 546 on the fifth level of Shangri-La Plaza Mall

Go for metro glamour this season

CREATE a bit of drama for the holidays with Red Earth's Metro Glamour line.

Spice up your usual clean and classic look with two new products from Red Earth—3-in-1 Eye Pen and UV Protection Lip Tint—with the help of makeup artist Barbie Chan.

THE LIP tint's unique mixture of polymer gives a soft and creamy texture to the lips.



MIKAELA Lagdameo's makeup by Barbie Chan of Salon Paradiso

UV Protection Lip Tint is the quickest way to have a sexy pout. The moisture-packed product has four luscious shades of Pink Amazement, Nude Illusion, Magenta Marvel and Sienna Surprise. The lip tint contains orange flower oil, honey and almond oil that heal chapped lips and maintain softness. Its unique mixture of polymer gives a soft and creamy texture to the lips.

With SPF 15, it protects against and prevents premature wrinkling.

Chan recommends using the lip tints to brighten up your daytime look. A generous amount gives lips a healthy sheen.

The 3-in-1 Eye Pen complements the lip tint with its subtle shades of yellow, brown and orange for a gorgeous glow. The retractable eyeliner, eyeshadow cartridges and eyebrow/lash brush allows easy definition and redesigning of the eye contour.

The long-lasting, creamy ye shadows glide on smoothly and provide a sheer touch of color. Use the versatile eyeliner to create a bold line around the eyes or smudge it softly for a subtle effect.

Chan suggests the use of color instead of the usual black for a soft but striking smoky eyes. Olive shade, for instance, emphasizes the eyes without giving them a too made up look. Chan also recommends using a nude or pink shade for lips and cheeks so that the eye color really stands out.

The 3-in-1 pen is available in black and brown.

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New cosmetic line for young Filipinas

EVER Bilena's Careline introduces its 2005 Cosmetic Collection.

The new collection is inspired by the free-spirited Asian adolescent eager to experience life for the first time.

Careline was launched in the Philippine market through its nail color collection. Now, it has expanded its product range with the Mini Face Powder, Eyeshadow Powder, Wet Lips, Lip Gloss and Lip Shimmer.

Ever Bilena Cosmetics Marketing manager Evelyn Santiago said the Careline girl is 13-20 years old. Fun, active and adventurous, she wants to try new things and establish her individuality.

Santiago said Careline has a mild formulation designed for the Asian teen's skin. The collection has bright colors, blends easily with the skin, does not easily wear off and is affordable for teens.

Ever Bilena chief executive officer Dioceldo Sy added that, aside from making sure that Careline's formulation is safe enough for the sensitive skin of young Asians, prices are also set to fit the budget of Filipino teens.

The new Careline products include the Compact Mini Face Powder (P40) in five different shades—natural, honey, tan, chestnut and white; Extra Shine Lip Shimmer (P40) that moisturizes the lips and gives them a subtle wet feel; Juicy Fruit Gloss (P40) that has a delicious fruity scent and gives a smooth, glossy finish to the lips; Wet Lips Collection (P40) in strawberry, grapes, orange, apple and watermelon; and the Eyeshadow Powder (P48) in candy-colors.

Careline Cosmetics is available in leading department stores nationwide.

Easy skincare regimen

FOR those who want to maintain a clear and healthy complexion through a simple and easy-to-follow daily skincare regimen, Nu Skin offers Scion Basics.

SCION Basics from Nu Skin

Consisting of Scion Facial Cleansing Gel, Refining Facial Toner and Moisture Light Cream, this product line offers an uncomplicated way to maintaining clean, fresh and healthy-looking skin.

Scion Basics adhere to the fundamental formula of skincare—cleanse, tone and moisturize.

The first step is cleansin, Scion Facial Cleansing Gel washes away dirt and other impurities. ,This product is soap-free and has a non-drying formula that will not irritate or harm the complexion. It leaves skin clean and fresh, while helping it retain needed moisture.

Preparing the skin for thorough moisturization, Scion Refining Facial Toner is especially designed to calm and revitalize the complexion. It also helps improve skin tone and texture, leaving it beautifully glowing.

Scion Moisture Light Cream replenishes lost moisture without leaving an uncomfortable greasy feel. Skin feels softer and smoother, revealing radiance and vitality. Use this as a final step to your skincare routine.

Nu Skin Philippines, Inc. exclusively distributes Scion Basics in the country. It is an affiliate of Nu Skin Enterprises, Inc., a leading multi-level marketing company engaged in the sales of premium quality personal-care products and health supplements.

Call 6890333 or visit www.nuskin.com.ph

Canon
BUY A STYLISH **PIXMA PRINTER.**
GET A CHANCE TO DRIVE HOME A STYLISH **PEUGEOT 206.**

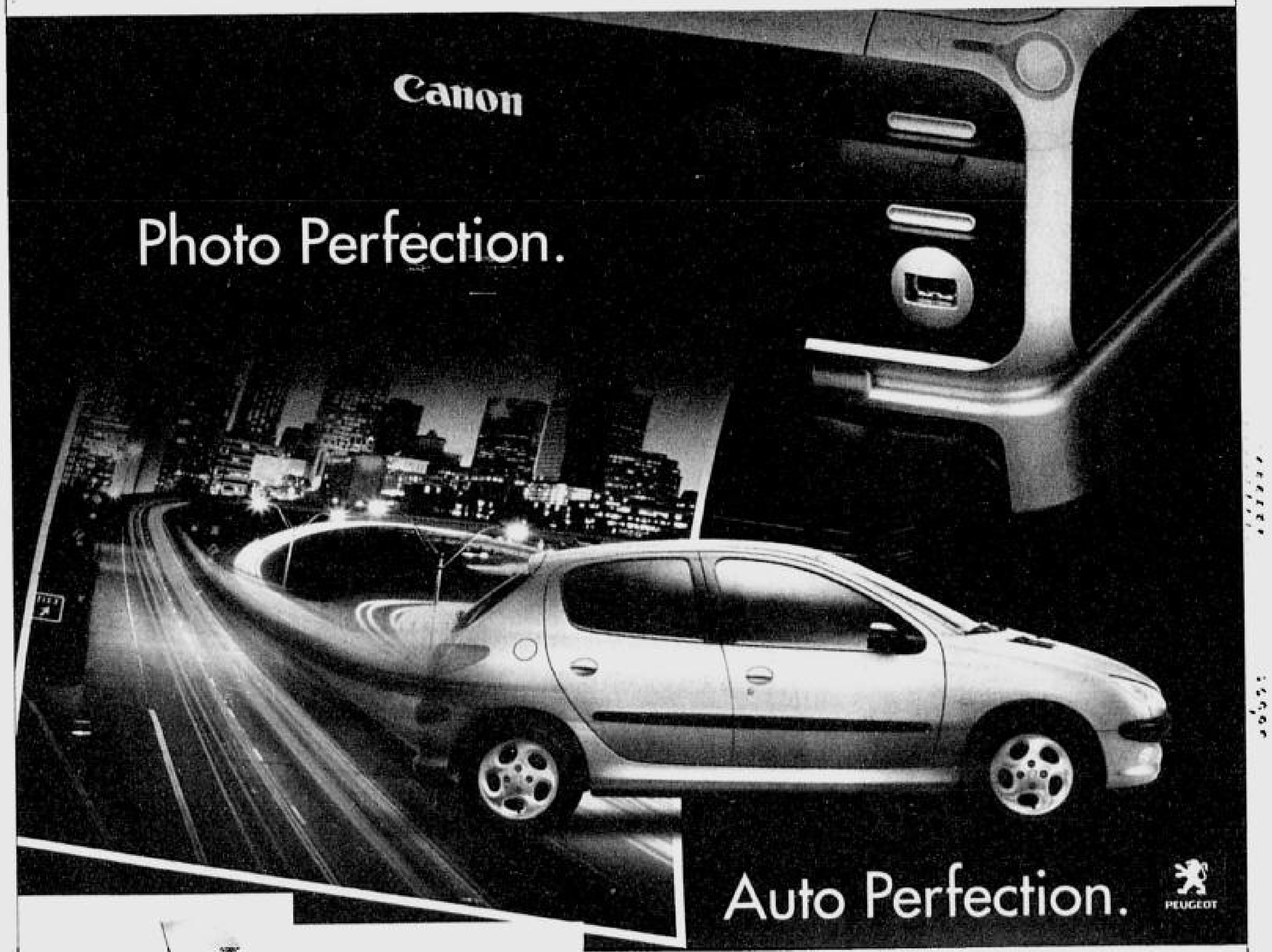


PHOTO PERFECTION BY
PIXMA

Promo Mechanics:

- Each purchase of any of the participating models of Canon Pixma Printer from all accredited Canon dealers nationwide, entitles the customer to a certain number of raffle coupons for a chance to win a Peugeot 206.

Raffle coupon breakdown:

iP1000	=	1	raffle stub
iP1500	=	2	raffle stubs
iP2000	=	3	raffle stubs
iP3000	=	4	raffle stubs
iP4000	=	6	raffle stubs
iP5000	=	8	raffle stubs
iP6000D	=	10	raffle stubs
iP8500	=	12	raffle stubs

- Customer shall fill up the raffle coupon with his/her name, address, telephone number, warranty card number, store name, model purchased, and affix signature.

PARTICIPATING MODELS:

iP1000
iP1500
iP2000
iP3000
iP4000
iP5000
iP6000D
iP8500

- Drop at designated drop boxes located inside the stores/retail outlets or place in a white legal sized envelop and mail to:

"Photo Perfection Auto Perfection" Raffle Promo
Canon Marketing Philippines, Inc.
2F Marvin Plaza Bldg. 2153 Don Chino Roces Ave.
cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City

- Promo period is from October 15 to December 15, 2004. Deadline of dropping the raffle coupons is on December 15, 2004 at 9:00PM. Mailed entries should be received not later than December 22, 2004.
- Raffle draw will be on December 28, 2004 at 3:00PM at Canon Marketing Philippines' head office with the presence of a DTI representative.
- The prize is not convertible to cash.
- The winner will be notified via registered mail and will be given specific instructions as to how and when he can claim his prize.
- To claim the prize, the winner must present any valid ID (SSS, TIN, Postal ID, Driver's license, Passport), warranty card and notification letter to Jill Santiago or Lesley Ang of Canon Marketing Philippines with office at 2F Marvin Plaza Bldg. 2153 Don Chino Roces Ave. cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City.
- The winner shall shoulder the 20% prize tax of the Peugeot 206 plus the vehicles' documentation requirements.
- If prize is not claimed within sixty days (60) from receipt of registered mail, the prize will be forfeited in favor of Canon Marketing Philippines, with prior approval from DTI.
- Employees of Canon Marketing Philippines, its advertising agency, participating retail outlets and authorized dealers including their relatives up to 2nd degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promo.

Actual car may vary from photo.

Per DTI NCR Permit No. [illegible] Series of 2004

South & Southeast Asia Regional Headquarters:
Canon Singapore Pte Ltd 1 HarbourFront Avenue, #04-01, Keppel Bay Tower, Singapore 098632 www.canon-asia.com
Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc. 2F Marvin Plaza 2153 Don Chino Roces Avenue, cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City • Tels. 812-6047 / 812-6076 to 79 / 892-8449 • Fax 810-9747
E-mail address: info@canon.com.ph • www.canon.com.ph

You can now get the 'Bridget Jones' look

LIPFINITY Everlites, Color Adapt Foundation and More Lashes mascara

From page F1

very effective at keeping the oil at bay.

The item is perspiration-, water- and sebum-resistant. It boasts of camouflaging enlarged pores. I love the fact that it has SPF 28.

The loose powder, P325, has a secure lid to prevent spillage, looks very sheer but also soaks up oil for that non-greasy look.

The mascara, at P395, sells 100 pieces a day in Japan alone because of its reasonable price and top performance. Choose between curl and long or curl and volume. It comes in black, brown and electric blue and don't clump, smear or flake.

FASIO star products

The lip gloss in tubes is only P195 and the Lipstick Super glossy is only P345. Choose between Brown Sugar Beige (my choice) and Petal Peach.

Of course, the best way to remove all that stay-put Fasio makeup is via the cleansing oil, which is the cheapest one around at P395. Fasio is truly a quality beauty find!

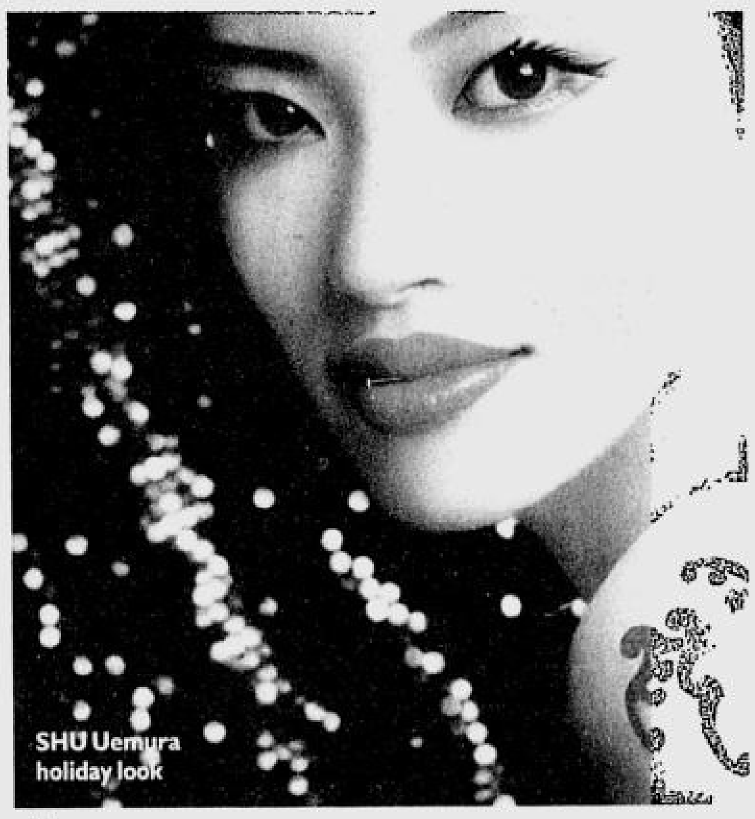
Product I now can't do without: all the liquid foundation mentioned in this article I applied using Paula Dorf's (PD) foundation brush, P2,150 at Essenses Rustan's.

I now refrain from using my hands when applying liquid or cream foundation as I always end up messing up my purse or dress. The very first makeup artist who used and in fact invented the foundation brush was PD.

With all the foundation brushes I have tried no one had the engineering down pat like she did. The finish is just smooth and natural like genetically perfect skin and unlike other brushes it adjusts to the contours of the face and is a no-brainer to use.

You will find that you use a lot less foundation and end up saving money.

E-mail the author at kinnysalas@yahoo.com


SHU Uemura holiday look

THE SAN MIGUEL FOUNDATION FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS and The Podium
present
THE SAN MIGUEL CHRISTMAS MUSIC FESTIVAL

THE SAN MIGUEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA & THE SAN MIGUEL MASTER CHORALE
with
RYAN CAYABYAB
December 3-5, Friday to Sunday
7:00 to 8:00 p.m.
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THE PODIUM
Jam 88.3 your kind of mix
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2 winners to go!
You may be the next winner of a Shopping Spree!
Shop within 60 seconds and win up to 100,000 worth of prizes.
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LIFESTYLE

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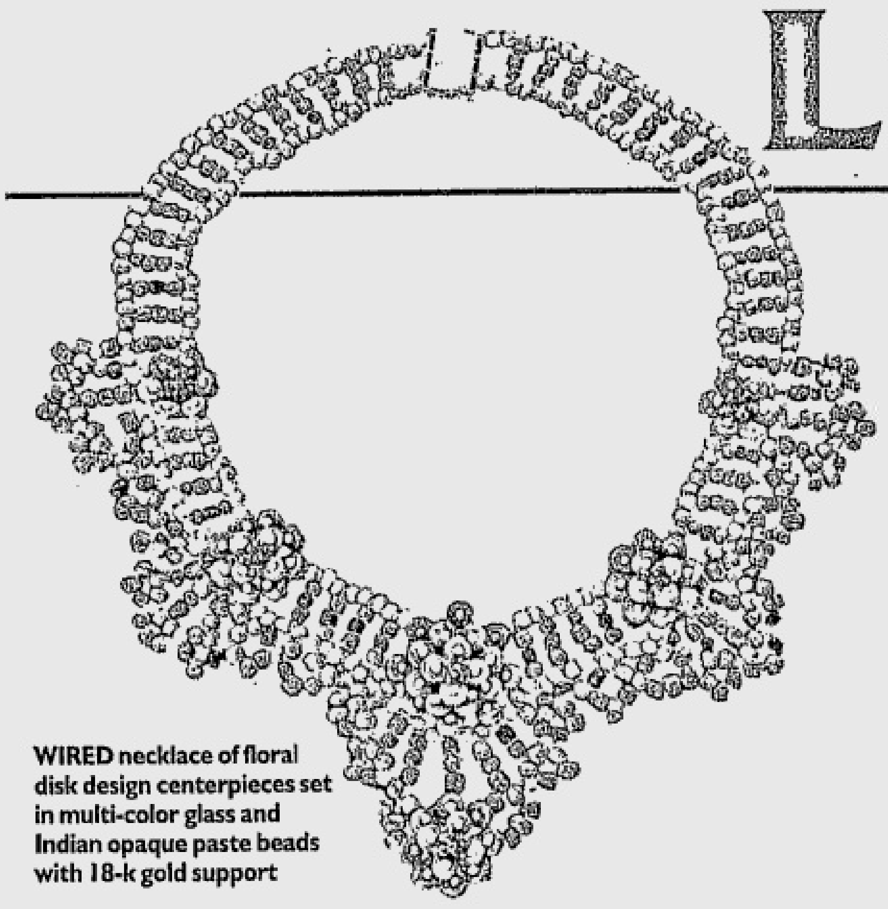
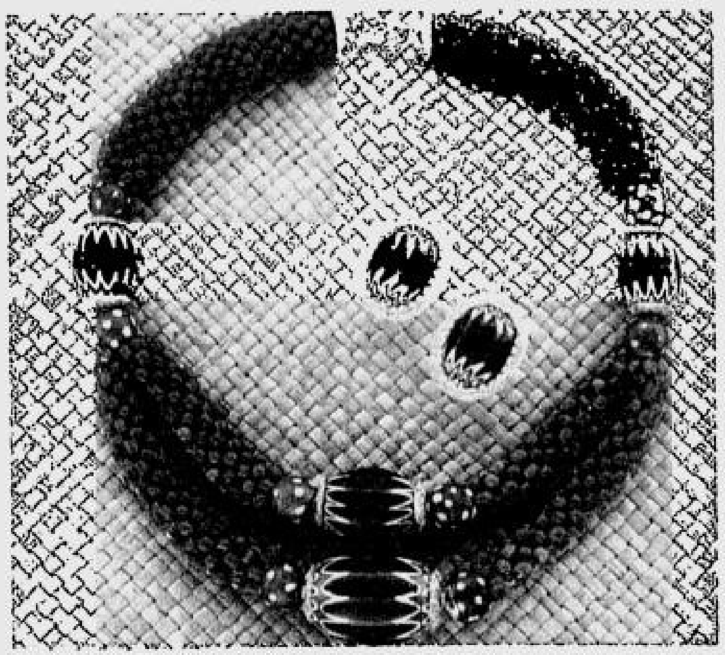
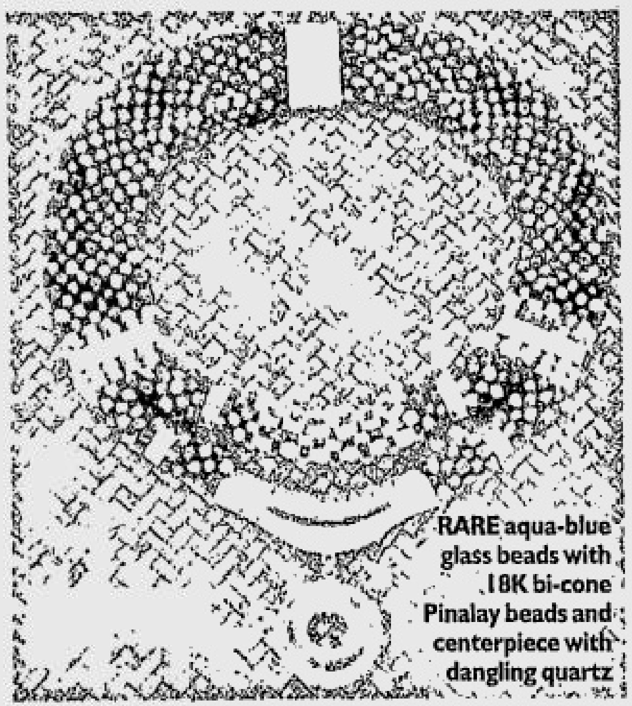


WIRED necklace of floral disk design centerpieces set in multi-color glass and Indian opaque paste beads with 18-k gold support



ANTIQUE barreled Venetian chevron combined with red ox-eye and red wound compound glass with polychrome dots



RARE aqua-blue glass beads with 18K bi-cone Pinalay beads and centerpiece with dangling quartz

What's old is new again

KUWINTAS is designing jewelry that combines art, history and craftsmanship that it hopes may even be considered museum pieces in the future.

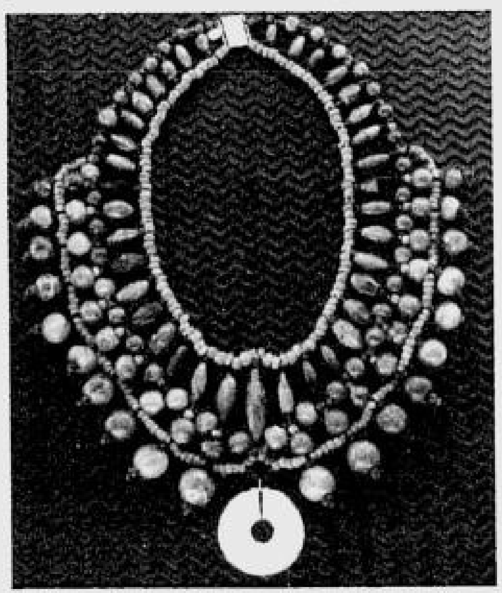
The store is owned by couple Nol and Elizabeth Encarnacion, who decided to turn their interest in heirlooms and in one-of-a-kind jewelry pieces into a business.

Trained and equipped in Germany, Elizabeth and her classically trained 10-man strong team of artisans create jewelry inspired by history reminiscent of age-old handcrafted and intricate masterpieces of gold. Each piece utilizes antique beads, either heirloom or excavated, ensuring that each item is rich in heritage.

All the beads used by Kuwintas are taken from old cultures from Asia, Euro-Asia, Iran, Afghanistan and Venice. The beads used to craft each piece are rich in stories that stem from olden-time barter trade, burial ceremonies and dowry gifts.

Traditional techniques such as granulation, filigree and repouse are used in creating the different items.

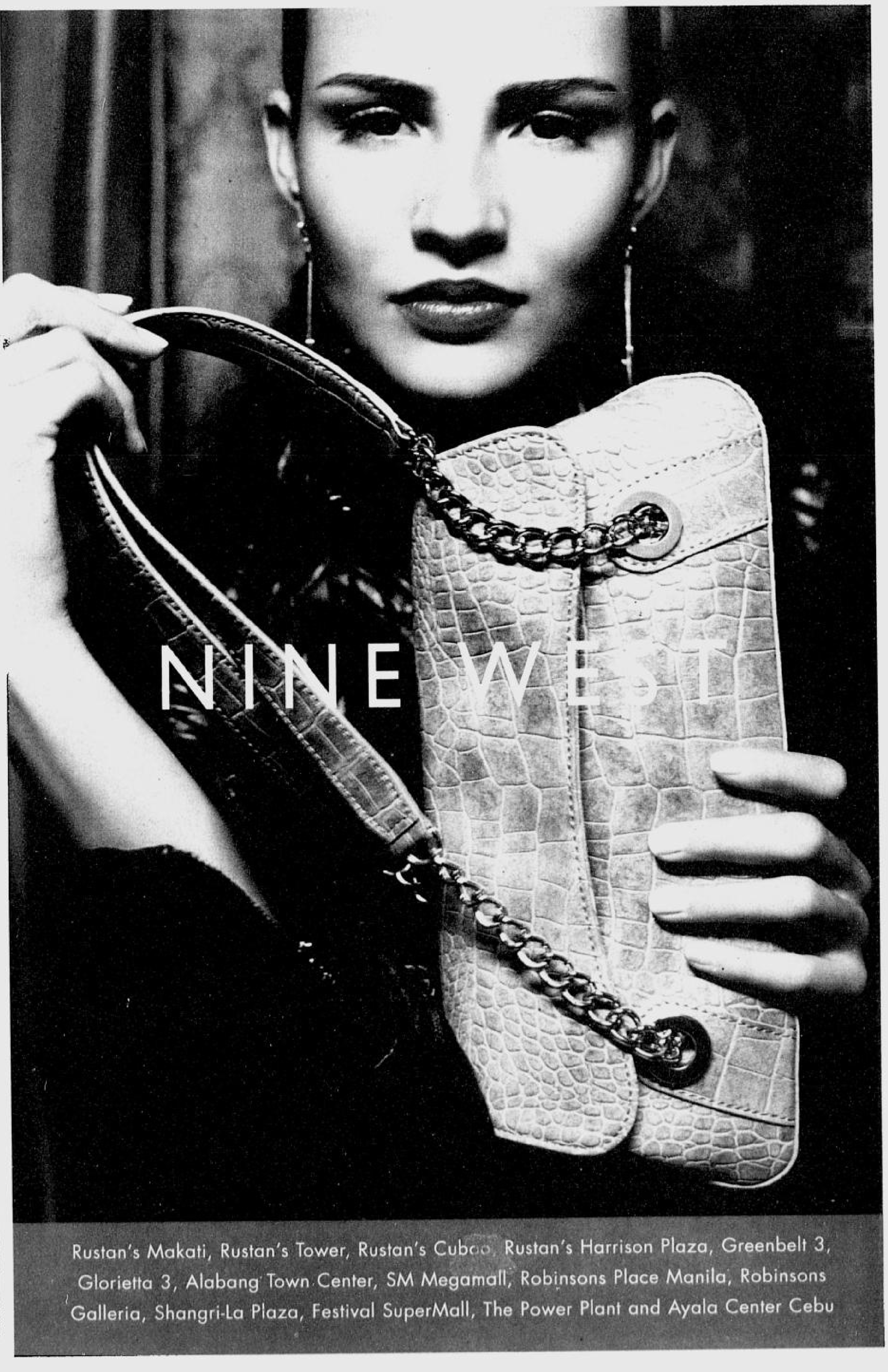
Prices of Kuwintas items start at P15,000. To view the collection at the Kuwintas Quezon City showroom, call 9120098 for an appointment, or e-mail kwintas@pacific.net.ph.



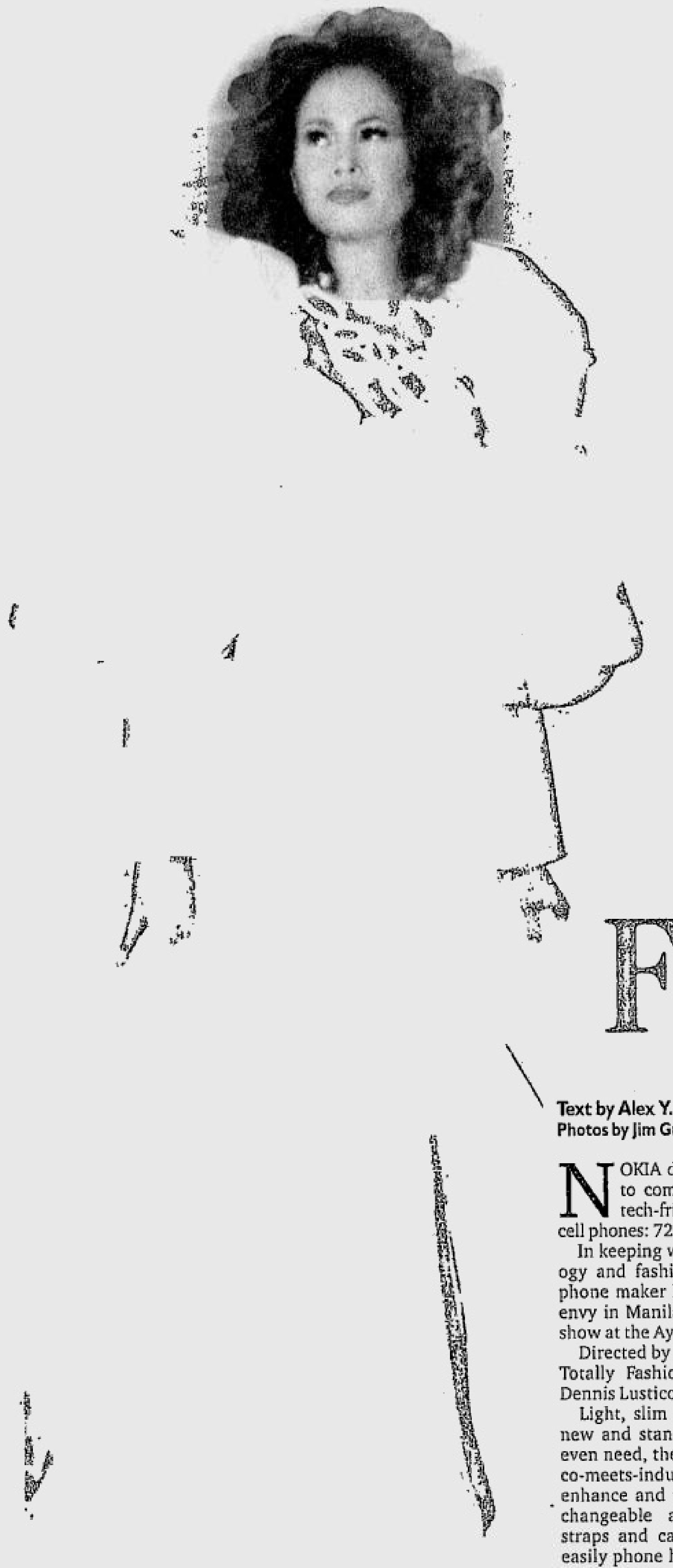
EXCAVATED barter ring pendant and Indian opaque paste beads interspersed with a variety of carnelian and blue glass beads

EXCAVATED gold pendant centerpiece with quartz on multicolored glass and Indian opaque paste beads combined with green bridal beads

ON ELIZABETH Encarnacion: centerpiece used is from a portion of raised-work wrist clasp set on strand of excavated green clay beads and mosaic (millefiore) glass beads

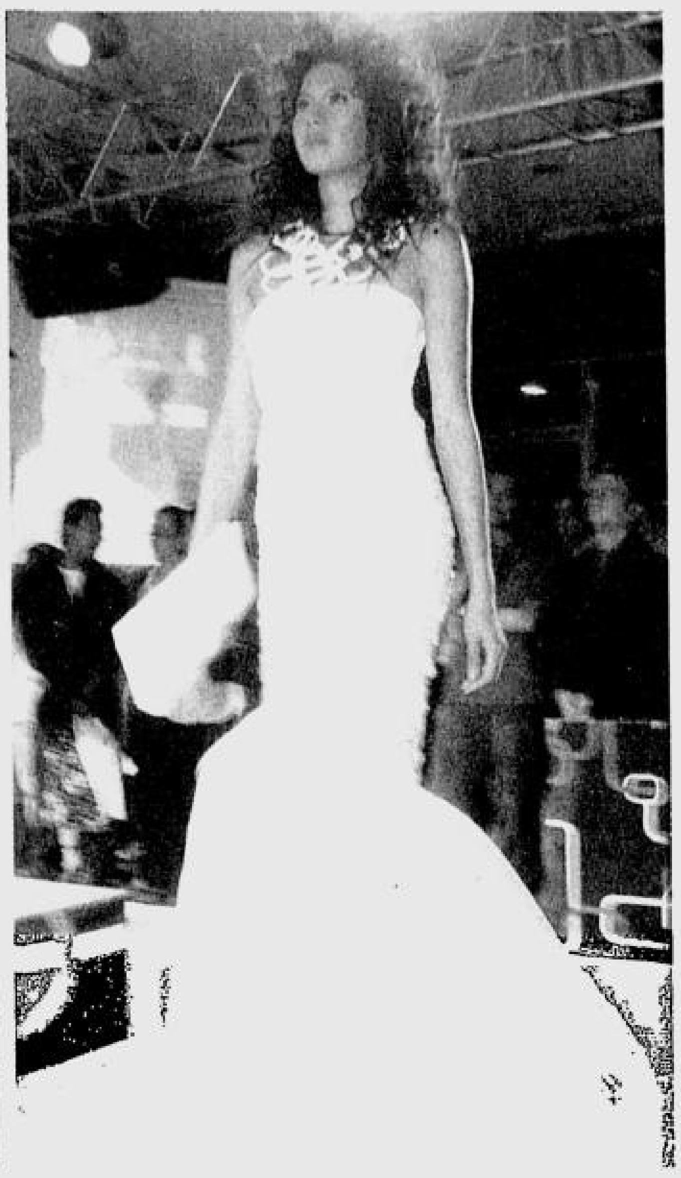


Rustan's Makati, Rustan's Tower, Rustan's Cubao, Rustan's Harrison Plaza, Greenbelt 3, Glorietta 3, Alabang Town Center, SM Megamall, Robinsons Place Manila, Robinsons Galleria, Shangri-La Plaza, Festival SuperMall, The Power Plant and Ayala Center Cebu



HUGE satin shrug adds volume and hides those arms.

GOWN that's close to the body manages to look sexy despite a layer of tulle.



A 1960s-inspired gown with a fishtail silhouette

Fashion calling

Designers tap the glamorous '20s to make cellphone-prone clothes

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

NOKIA drew inspiration from the past to come up with three of its latest tech-friendly and fashionista-savvy cell phones: 7260, 7270 and 7280.

In keeping with its thrust to fuse technology and fashion, the world's leading cell phone maker launched its latest objects of envy in Manila with a color-coded fashion show at the Ayala Museum.

Directed by Robby Carmona, "Nokia Goes Totally Fashion" featured the clothes of Dennis Lustico, Rhett Eala and Randy Ortiz.

Light, slim and loaded with all sorts of new and standard features you might not even need, the 7260 is described as Art Deco-meets-industrial design. Users can even enhance and personalize their 7260s with changeable accessories such as stylish straps and carrying cases. Jet-setters can easily phone home, as it has tri-band capabilities, or send celebrity sightings to friends via its VGA camera.

The 7270 draws its inspiration from the glamorous 1920s. Encased in an etched stainless steel casing, its fold design is designed to accent your wardrobe with matching textile wrap, carrying strap and pouch to reflect your style and mood. On top of a VGA camera, it has a built-in radio and fashion headset.

Finally, the VGA-equipped 7280 offers a completely new mobile phone design that chucked the traditional keypad for a discreet keyless dial using the Navi-spinner. A fine lacquered-inspired high-gloss finish complemented by leather and mirror accents add style, making the device as much a work of art as it is an advanced piece of technology.

Contrasts

Fashionable yet functional, retro yet modern, small yet attractive are some of the contrasting adjectives that best describe the new Nokia models, which the three designers tried to translate in their respective collections. Aside from the assigned colors, each designer chose a specific decade to draw inspiration from.

Lustico paid homage to the early 1960s with sweeping white ball gowns that combined shape and volume. To achieve this, the designer did fitted cashmere crepe outfits wrapped in a layer of tulle. A fishtail number came with a film of hand-pleated tulle with converging diagonal patterns.

"I wanted to marry volume with sexiness," he said. "There are two approaches to make outfits in white look sexy. You either make them cling to the body or you incorporate holes in the form of peek-a-boos."

One shade that needs no peek-a-boo to command attention is red, which Eala appropriated for the night with his 1940s-inspired slim cotton pique skirts and sleeveless tops. In lieu of the decade's trademark shoulder pads, he used detachable fox fur for a more contemporary look.

"I got the fur from a flea market in Hong Kong," said the amused designer. "Aside from Baguio and Tagaytay, they can be worn in an air-conditioned room."

To add some sparkle into the matte fabric, Eala hand-painted portions of the skirt and bodice before beading them with black sequins, spangles, crystals and cut beads. In keeping with the designer's signature silhouette, the pieces were structured close to the body.

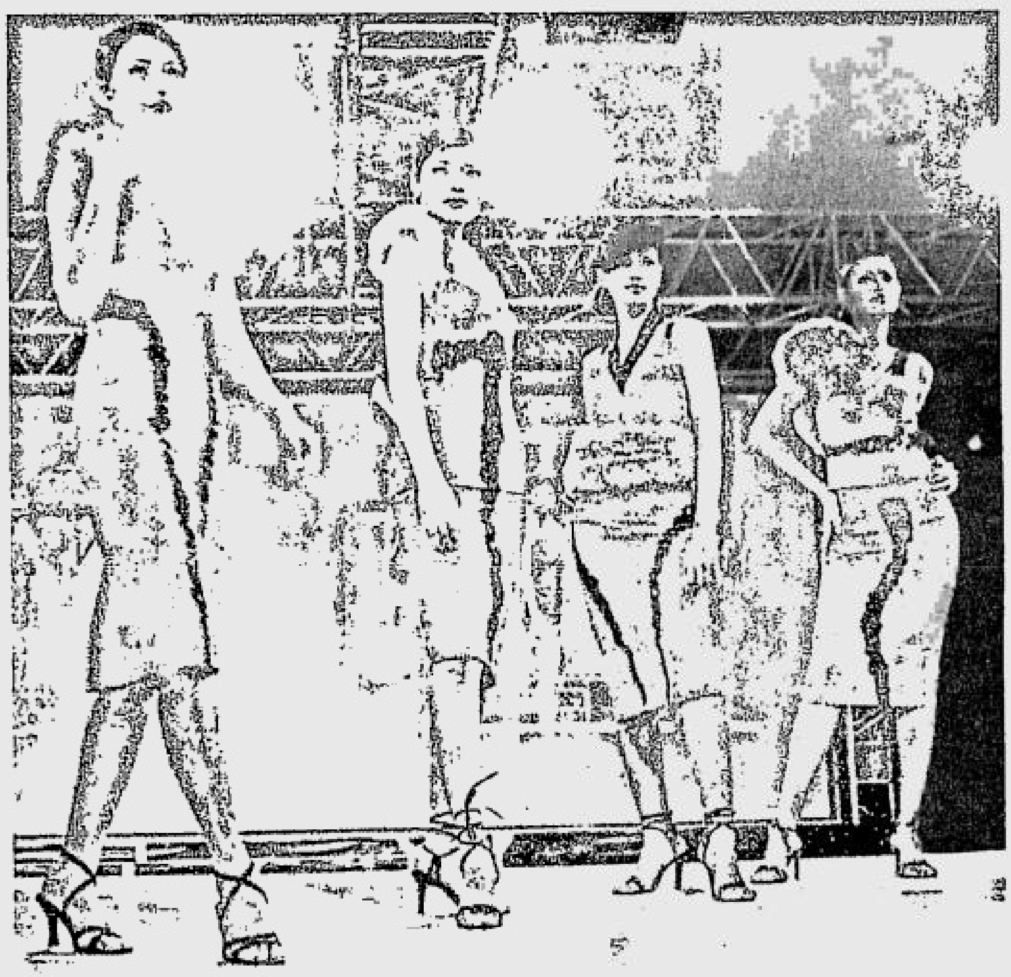
Ortiz capped off the evening with an all-black collection of tailored men's suits made mostly from tropical wool in different patterns—from wide to narrow pin stripes, to hound's tooth hidden beneath the jacket's collars. Aside from black bouclé, the tuxedo pants were accented with satin strips.

Despite his attempt at fusing various patterns, materials and elements, the collection managed to look expensive, visually exciting and masculine. It also helped that the designer chose the country's leading male models such as Gary Dulatas, Peter Nordell and Raphael Kieffer.

"They're my version of neo-classic tuxedoes that hark back to the time of Rudolf Valentino in the 1920s," he said. "I had to be very selective in the choice of models. Aside from being tall and handsome, they have to project a certain rich, clean image."

And rightly so, since like the rest of the evening's mannequins, they also had to fish out and model the latest Nokia cell phones. The marriage between fashion and technology never looked this good.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph.



LADIES in beaded red dresses

MATTE and shine

BLACK on black

PANEL inserts

ENZO Angiolini 2004 collection

Label gets its own home

ENZO Angiolini, which used to be housed with Nine West shoes and bags, finally goes solo at Greenbelt 3 and Rustan's Makati. Another label under the Nine West Group Inc., Enzo Angiolini is known for its classic European-style high-end shoes, handbags and accessories.

Started in the early '90s, Enzo Angiolini is available in the brand's own 25 stores and in over 200 Nine West outlets. It has established a strong presence in Hong Kong, Thailand, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Taiwan and the Philippines.

Enzo Angiolini was launched in Manila in 1998. Retailed with Nine West, it was acquired by Stores Specialists Inc. The brand tries to meet the customer's desire for luxury at affordable prices.

The products show careful attention to detail, craftsmanship and materials. Luxurious and timeless, they feature high-quality leathers and distinctive designs.

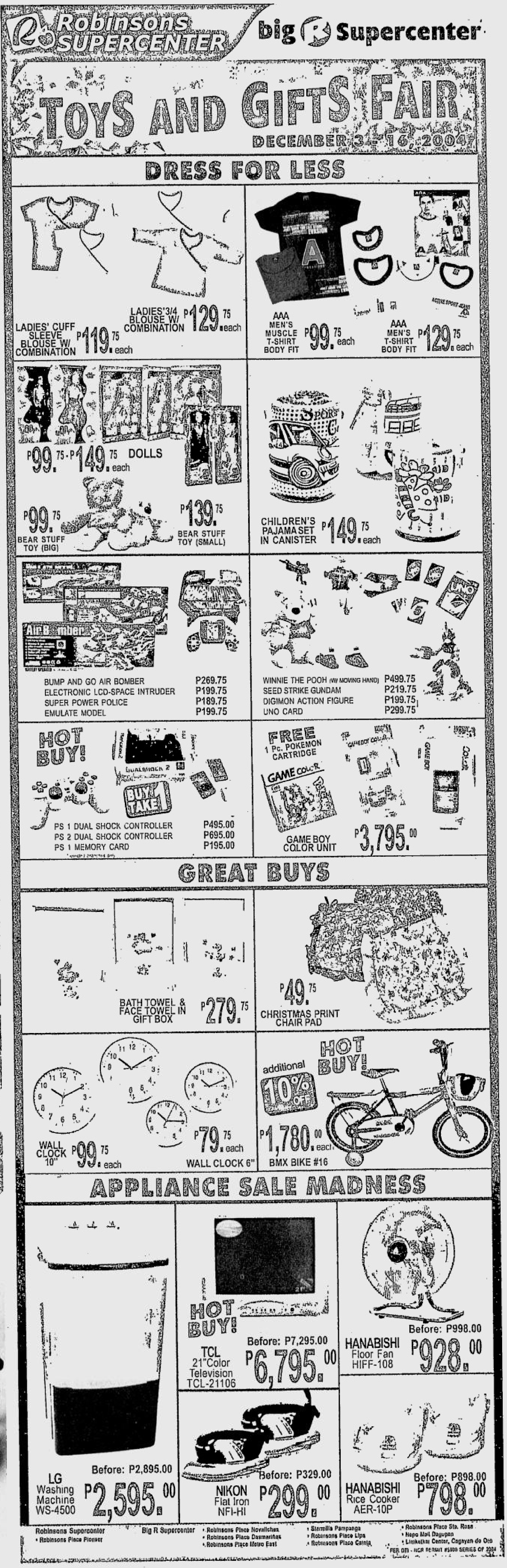
Enzo Angiolini's newest collection is at Greenbelt 3 and Rustan's Makati. Stores Specialists Inc. is the authorized distributor of the Enzo Angiolini.

FELIZ

MONICA and Charlize

JULIANNE, Evangelina and Namanda

RUBIA



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PER DTI - NCR PERMIT #5900 SERIES OF 2004

Enamel 'treasures' are practical gifts

LADY'S bag

OCEANIC 1911's latest enamel collection consists of intricately designed trinkets that are both practical and decorative.

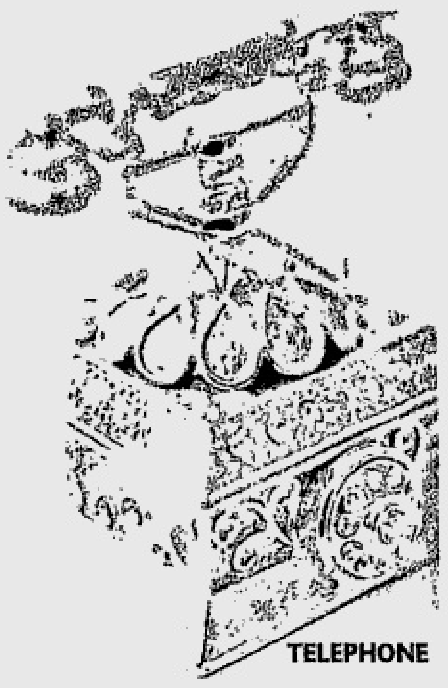
The trinkets can be used to store jewelry pieces and personal effects (small lipsticks, pills) or maybe used as paperweights and tabletop decor.

Oceanic's enamel treasures come in various interesting miniature shapes—baby shoes, lady's handbag, golf bag, telephone, kettle and water sprinkler. There are also panda bears, dolphins, owls and frogs.

Enamel is a decorative art technique in which glass "paste" is applied to the surface of a metal. It dates back to the 15th century when Egyptians used pieces of cut-glass in decorative patterns to enhance an object. Since then, enamel has been used throughout history and by cultures across the globe, because of its colorful and lustrous quality.

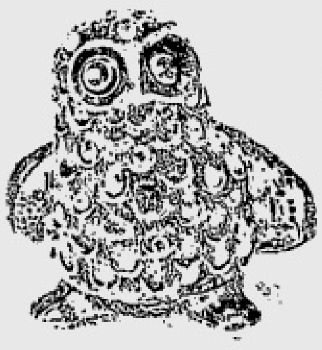
You may want to get Oceanic 1911's enamel trinkets to add to your own collection or as gifts for friends and loved ones.

Oceanic 1911 stores are located at Glorietta 1, SM Megamall, SM Southmall, Festival Mall, SM Northmall, SM City Manila, Ayala Center Cebu and Robinsons Place Bacolod.

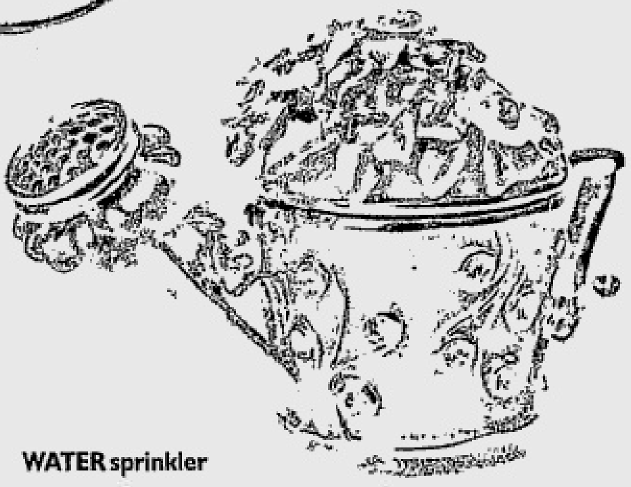


TELEPHONE

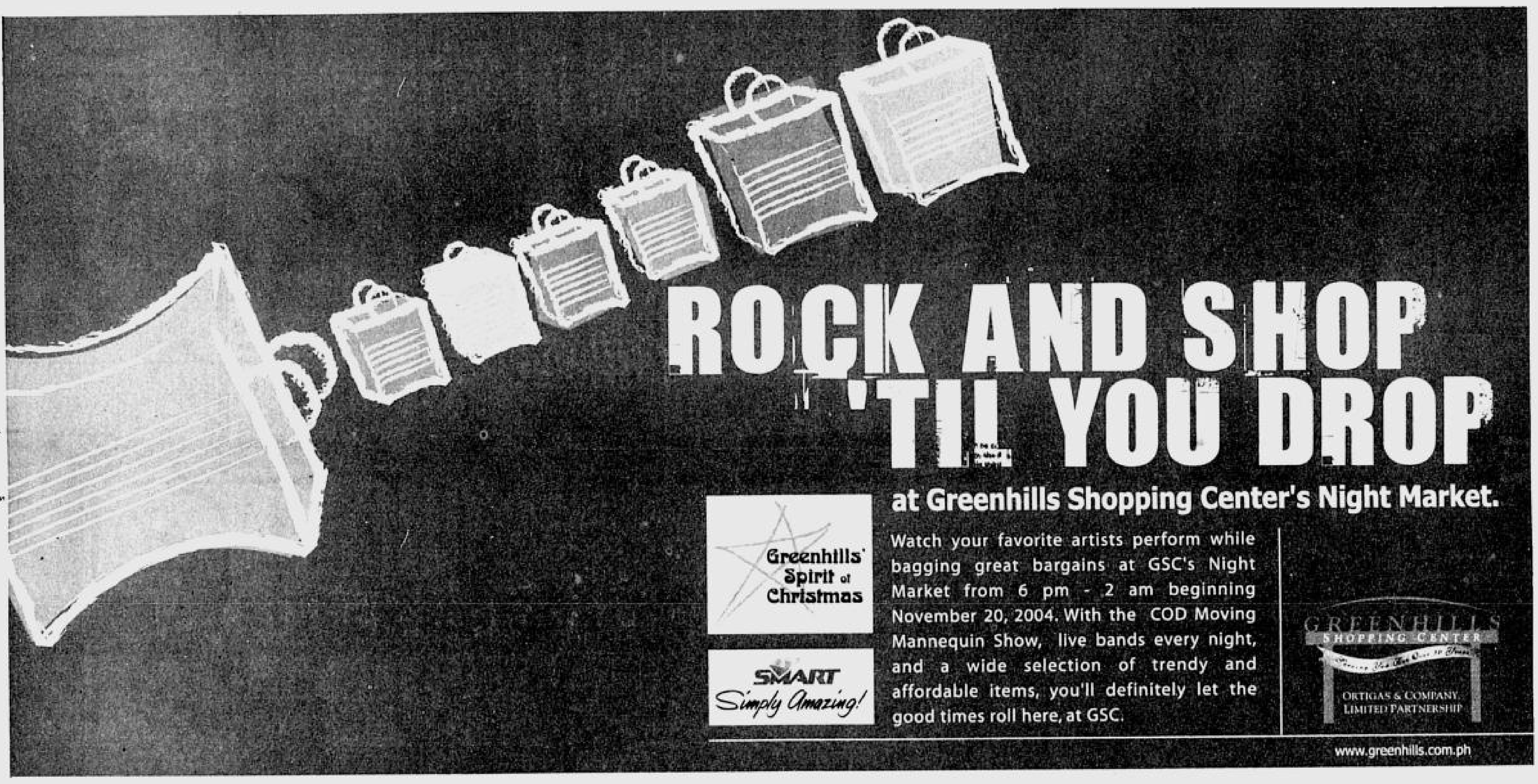
BABY'S shoes



OWL



WATER sprinkler



ROCK AND SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP
at Greenhills Shopping Center's Night Market.
Watch your favorite artists perform while bagging great bargains at GSC's Night Market from 6 pm - 2 am beginning November 20, 2004. With the COD Moving Mannequin Show, live bands every night, and a wide selection of trendy and affordable items, you'll definitely let the good times roll here, at GSC.
Greenhills' Spirit of Christmas
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10:30 am
10:00 am
1:00 pm
12:30 pm
9:30 am
1:30 pm
9:00 am
2:00 pm

[illegible] the street.
Hands on Manila is a non-profit organization that recruits, educates and coordinates a network of volunteers for community projects. We have over 30 service programs to choose from ranging from literacy, arts, sports, housing and counseling among others. If you feel you are called to serve, here's our number: 843-7044 or e-mail us to homla@info.com.ph. A little of your time heals all wounds.
HANDS ON MANILA FOUNDATION, INC.

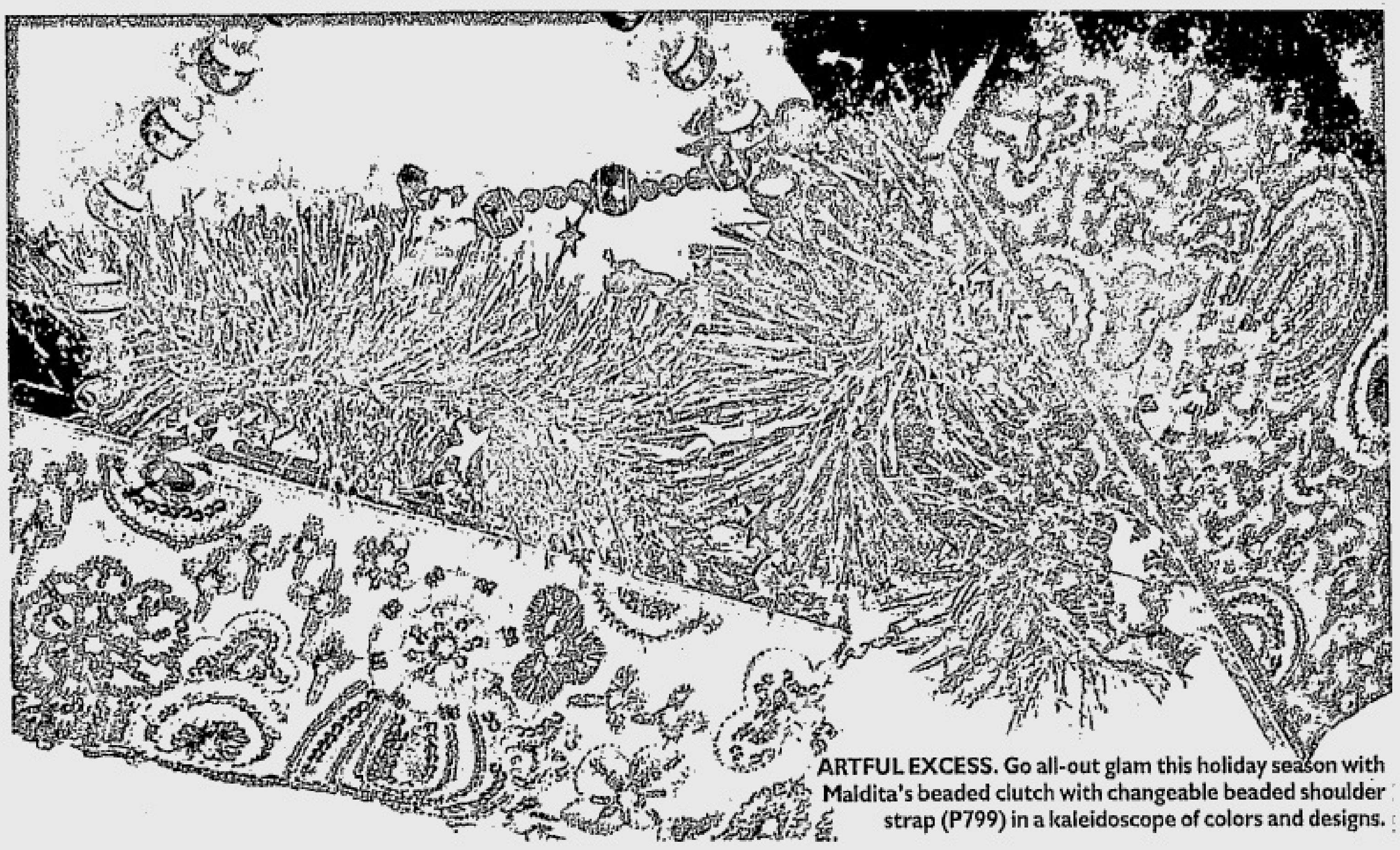
Holiday sparkle

THE POWER dressing woman's favorite boutique, Maldita, offers a holiday collection that blurs the contrast between casual chic and classic elegance.

Standouts are sexy tops, feminine and flirty separates that cling and hug the body, low-slung jeans that show off your curves.

Embellished bags and fun totes pump up the glam factor, especially when paired with bejeweled shoes. Glittery accessories that spell opulence add a touch of whimsy and originality.

Visit any of the Maldita stores at SM North Edsa; SM Megamall; SM Manila; SM Sucat: SM Fairview; SM Southmall; SM Dasmarinas, Cavite; SM Cebu City; SM San Fernando, Pampanga; Robinsons Galleria, Robinsons Place Ermita; Glorietta 1, Ayala Center; Festival Mall, Alabang; Outlet Yard, Quezon Avenue; and Market! Market!, Bonifacio Global City.



ARTFUL EXCESS. Go all-out glam this holiday season with Maldita's beaded clutch with changeable beaded shoulder strap (P799) in a kaleidoscope of colors and designs.

GLAM GAL. Exude confidence and oomph with this red hot V-neck empire cut with racerback top in luxurious satin (P499)

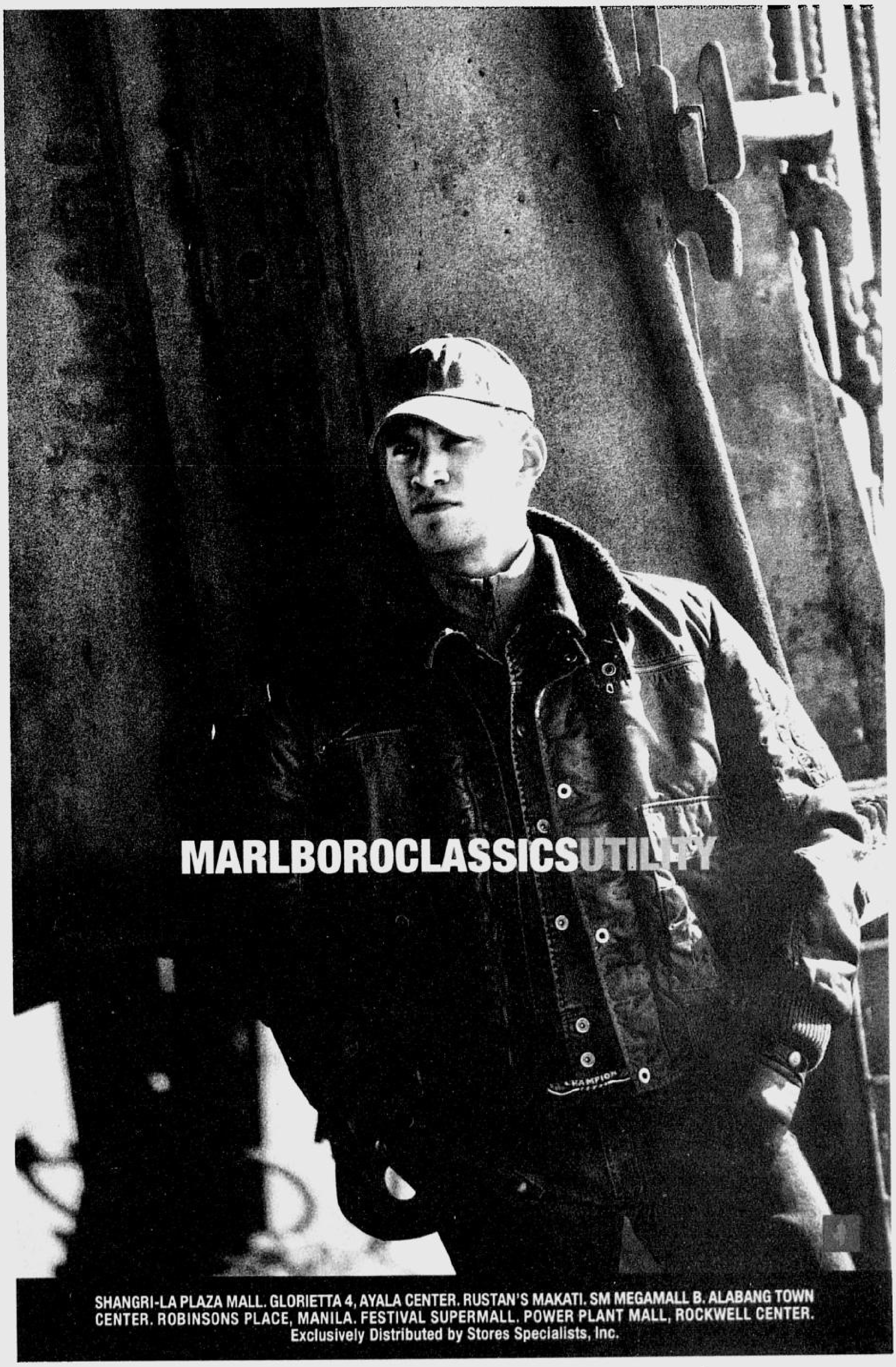
DRAMA QUEEN. Turn instantly from blah to wow with Maldita's low V-neck halter top (P499) and denim jacket with tab and snaps detail (P1200)

Paris-trained designer
Shanon Pamaong
conducts international
standard training at the
FASHION INSTITUTE
of the Philippines

January/February 2005 Schedule

Children's Wear	Jan.17-22	M-Sat	9-6
Men's Wear	Jan.24-29	M-Sat	9-6
Fashion Design	Jan.31-Feb.11	MWF	9-6
Basic Pattern	Feb.1-12	T-Th-Sat	9-6
Advance Pattern	Feb.14-19	M-Sat	9-6
Haute Couture	Feb.21-26	M-Sat	9-6

Fee - P8,000./course
10% discount for 2 courses or more
Designer Career Package P26,000.
(P6,500. / course - Jan.31-Feb.26 Mon-Sat 9-6)
Basic Fashion Design
Basic & Advance Pattern Making
Haute Couture Techniques
Sewing - Individual schedule Fee - P6000.
Enroll now, only 10 students per class.
Cell0919-488-0869 Tel.635 5383
Cityland Shaw Tower Beside Shangrila Mall



SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL. GLORIETTA 4, AYALA CENTER. RUSTAN'S MAKATI. SM MEGAMALL B. ALABANG TOWN CENTER. ROBINSONS PLACE, MANILA. FESTIVAL SUPERMALL. POWER PLANT MALL, ROCKWELL CENTER.
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2004

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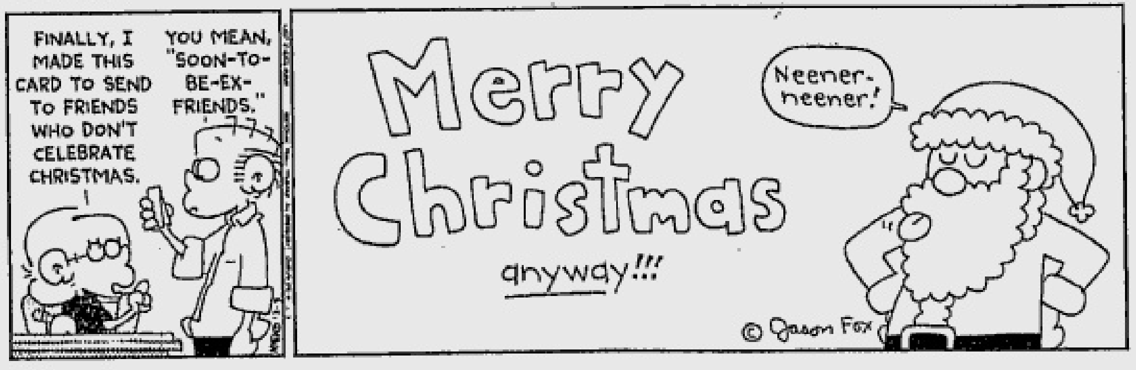
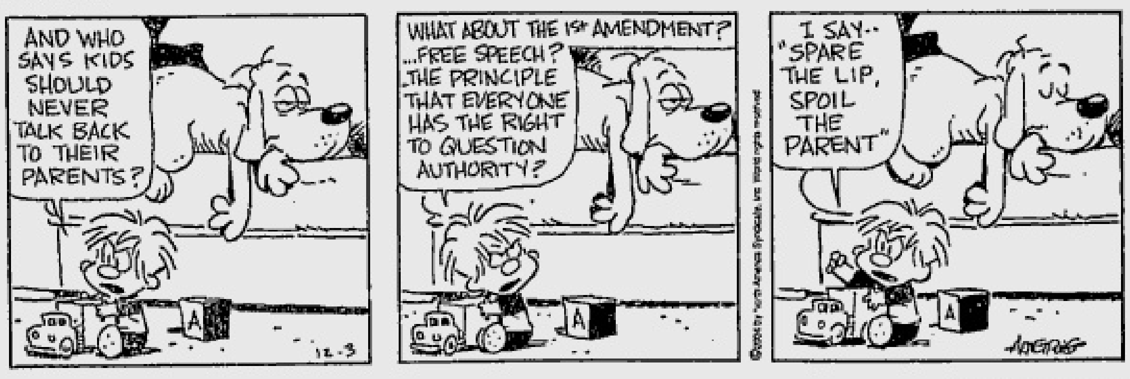
BY BILL AMEND


FINALLY, I MADE THIS CARD TO SEND TO FRIENDS WHO DON'T CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS.
YOU MEAN, "SOON-TO-BE-EX-FRIENDS."
Merry Christmas anyway!!!
Neener-neener!
© Jason Fox

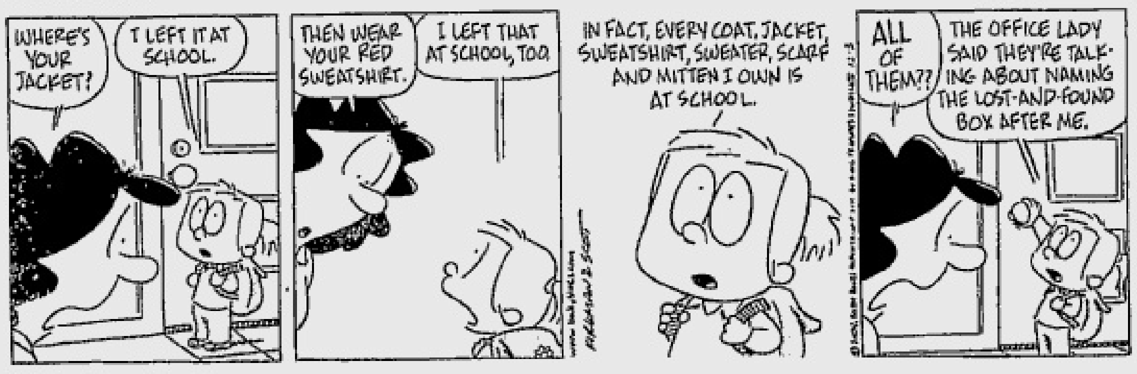
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


AND WHO SAYS KIDS SHOULD NEVER TALK BACK TO THEIR PARENTS?
WHAT ABOUT THE 1st AMENDMENT? ...FREE SPEECH? THE PRINCIPLE THAT EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO QUESTION AUTHORITY?
I SAY.. "SPARE THE LIP, SPOIL THE PARENT"
12-3
A
ARMSTRONG

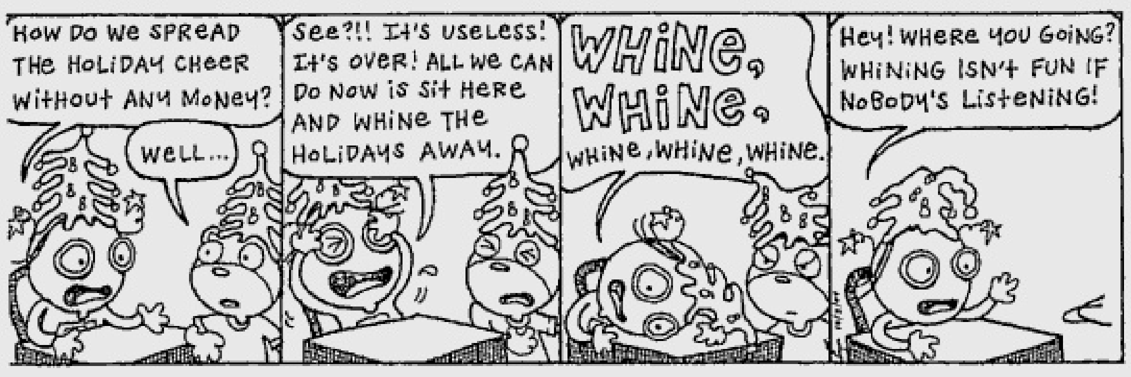
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


WHERE'S YOUR JACKET?
I LEFT IT AT SCHOOL.
THEN WEAR YOUR RED SWEATSHIRT.
I LEFT THAT AT SCHOOL, TOO.
IN FACT, EVERY COAT, JACKET, SWEATSHIRT, SWEATER, SCARF AND MITTEN I OWN IS AT SCHOOL.
ALL OF THEM??
THE OFFICE LADY SAID THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT NAMING THE LOST-AND-FOUND BOX AFTER ME.
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

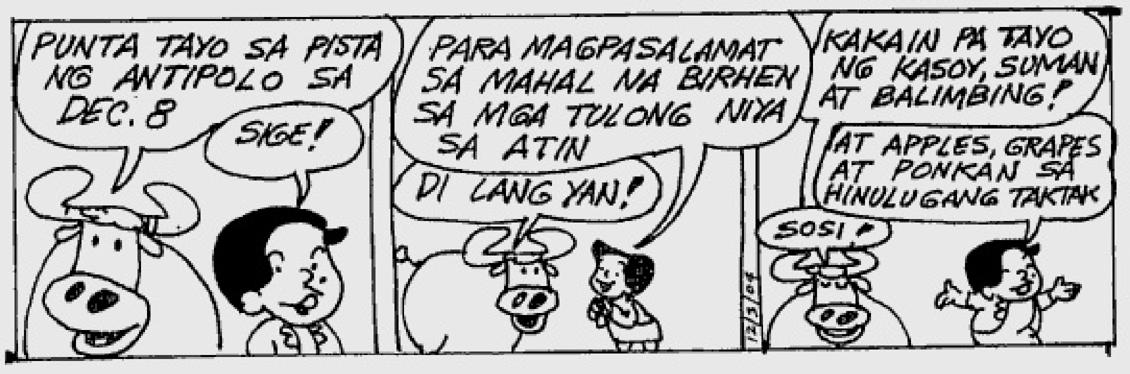
ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


How Do We SPREAD The HoLiDAY CHeeR WithouT ANY MoNey?
WeLL...
See?!! It's useLess! It's oveR! ALL We CAN Do Now is Sit Here AND WHiNe The HoLiDAYs AWAY.
WHiNe, WHiNe, WHiNe, WHiNe, WHiNe.
Hey! WHere You GoiNG? WHiNiNG ISN't FUN IF NoBoDY's LisTeNiNG!

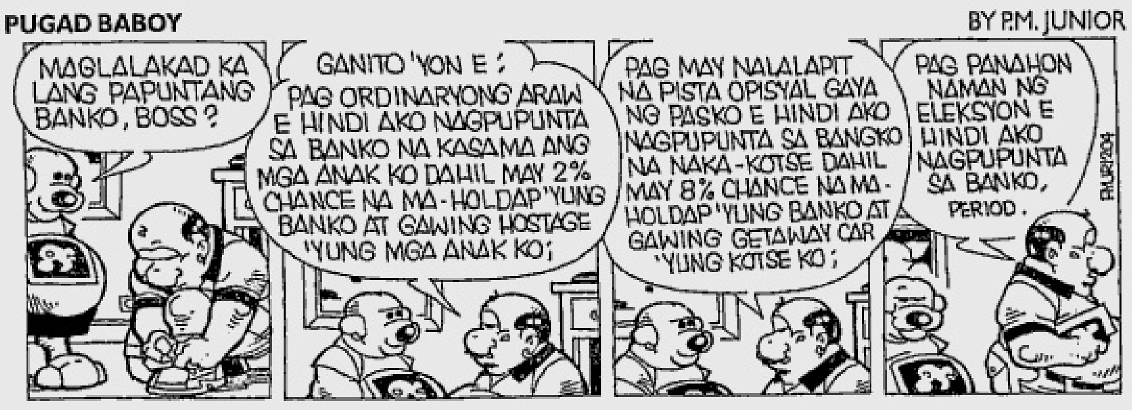
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


PUNTA TAYO SA PISTA NG ANTIPOLO SA DEC. 8
SIGE!
PARA MAGPASALAMAT SA MAHAL NA BIRHEN SA MGA TULONG NIYA SA ATIN
DI LANG YAN!
12/3/04
KAKAIN PA TAYO NG KASOY, SUMAN AT BALIMBING!
AT APPLES, GRAPES AT PONKAN SA HINULUGANG TAKTAK
SOSI!

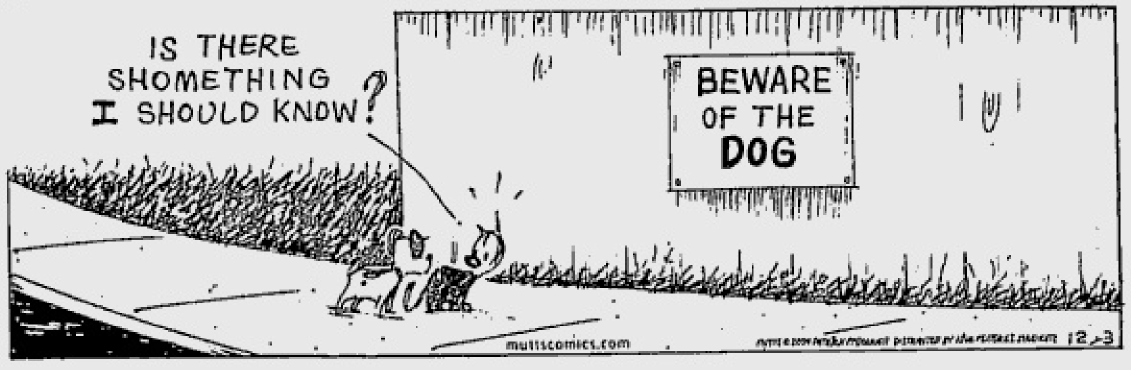
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


MAGLALAKAD KA LANG PAPUNTANG BANKO, BOSS?
GANITO 'YON E;
PAG ORDINARYONG ARAW E HINDI AKO NAGPUPUNTA SA BANKO NA KASAMA ANG MGA ANAK KO DAHIL MAY 2% CHANCE NA MA-HOLDAP 'YUNG BANKO AT GAWING HOSTAGE 'YUNG MGA ANAK KO;
PAG MAY NALALAPIT NA PISTA OPISYAL GAYA NG PASKO E HINDI AKO NAGPUPUNTA SA BANGKO NA NAKA-KOTSE DAHIL MAY 8% CHANCE NA MA-HOLDAP 'YUNG BANKO AT GAWING GETAWAY CAR 'YUNG KOTSE KO;
PAG PANAHON NAMAN NG ELEKSYON E HINDI AKO NAGPUPUNTA SA BANKO, PERIOD.
PMJR2004

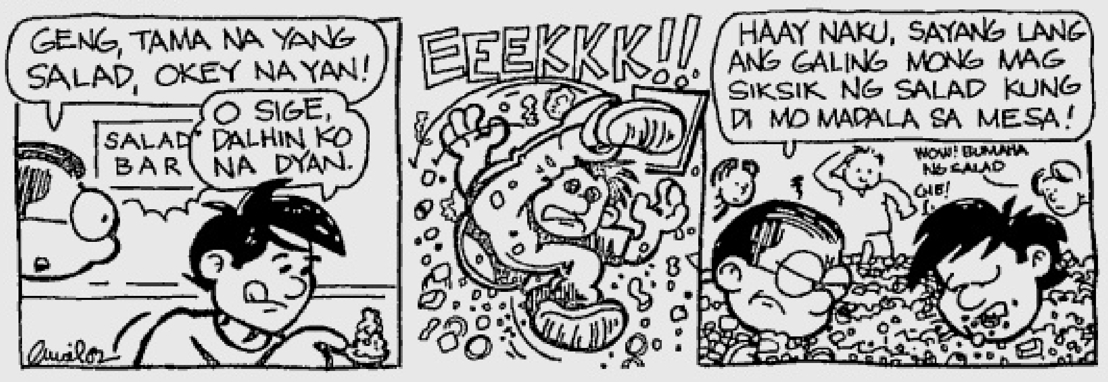
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


IS THERE SHOMETHING I SHOULD KNOW?
BEWARE OF THE DOG
muttscomics.com
12-3

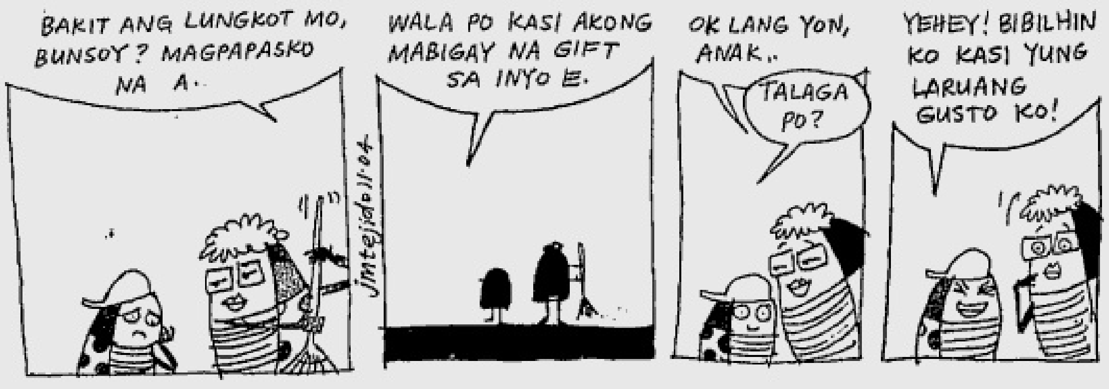
GENG'S GAMES

BY AMIEL RUFO


GENG, TAMA NA YANG SALAD, OKEY NA YAN!
SALAD BAR
O SIGE, DALHIN KO NA DYAN.
EEEKKK!!
HAAY NAKU, SAYANG LANG ANG GALING MONG MAG SIKSIK NG SALAD KUNG DI MO MADALA SA MESA!
WOW! BUMAHA NG SALAD
GIB!

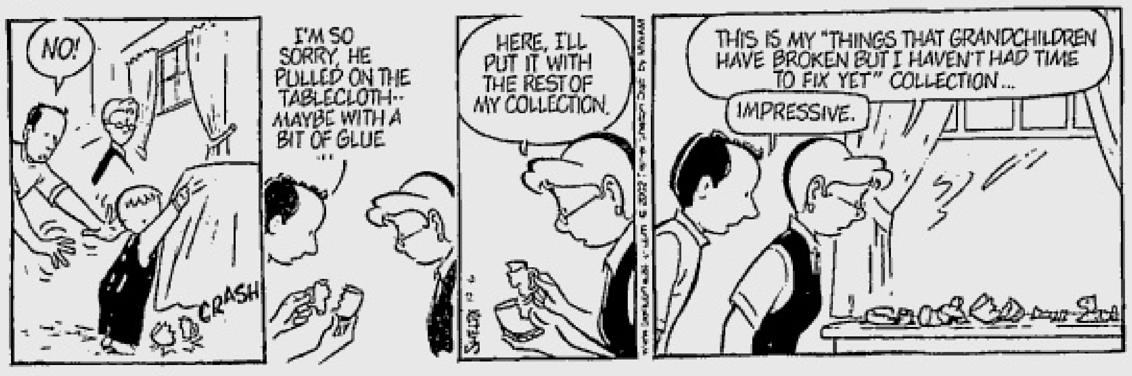
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


BAKIT ANG LUNGKOT MO, BUNSOY? MAGPAPASKO NA A.
WALA PO KASI AKONG MABIGAY NA GIFT SA INYO E.
jmtejido 11-04
OK LANG YON, ANAK..
TALAGA PO?
YEHEY! BIBILHIN KO KASI YUNG LARUANG GUSTO KO!

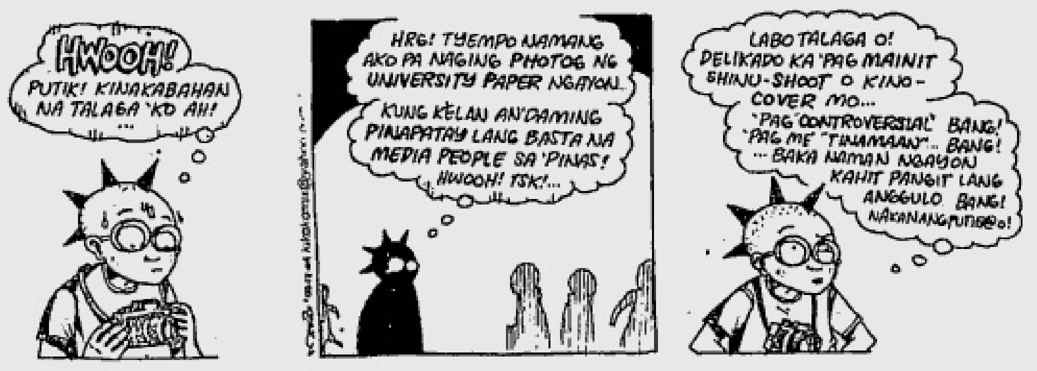
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


NO!
CRASH
I'M SO SORRY. HE PULLED ON THE TABLECLOTH-- MAYBE WITH A BIT OF GLUE ...
HERE, I'LL PUT IT WITH THE REST OF MY COLLECTION.
THIS IS MY "THINGS THAT GRANDCHILDREN HAVE BROKEN BUT I HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO FIX YET" COLLECTION...
IMPRESSIVE.

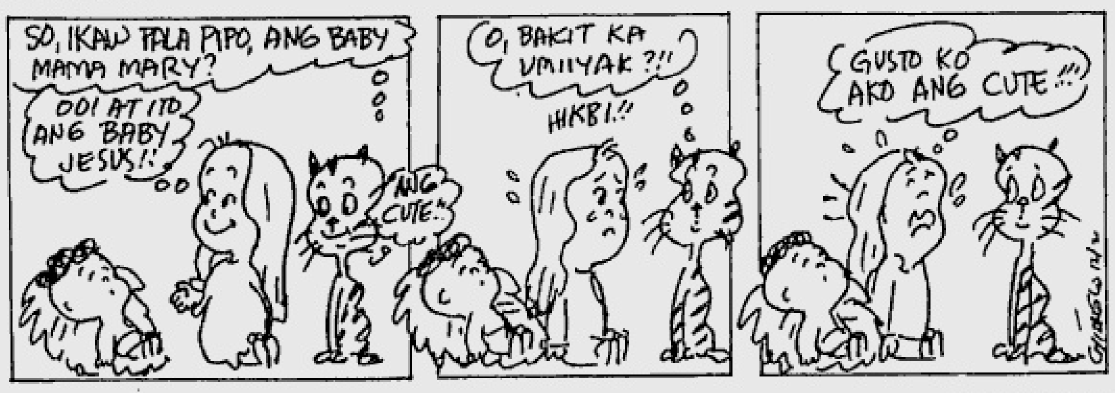
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


HWOOH! PUTIK! KINAKABAHAN NA TALAGA 'KO AH! ...
HRG! TYEMPO NAMANG AKO PA NAGING PHOTOG NG UNIVERSITY PAPER NGAYON.
KUNG KELAN AN'DAMING PINAPATAY LANG BASTA NA MEDIA PEOPLE SA 'PINAS! HWOOH! TSK!...
LABO TALAGA O! DELIKADO KA 'PAG MAINIT SHINU-SHOOT O KINO-COVER MO...
'PAG 'CONTROVERSIAL' BANG! 'PAG ME' "TINAMAAN"... BANG!
... BAKA NAMAN NGAYON KAHIT PANGIT LANG ANGGULO BANG! NAKANANGPUTIPOO!

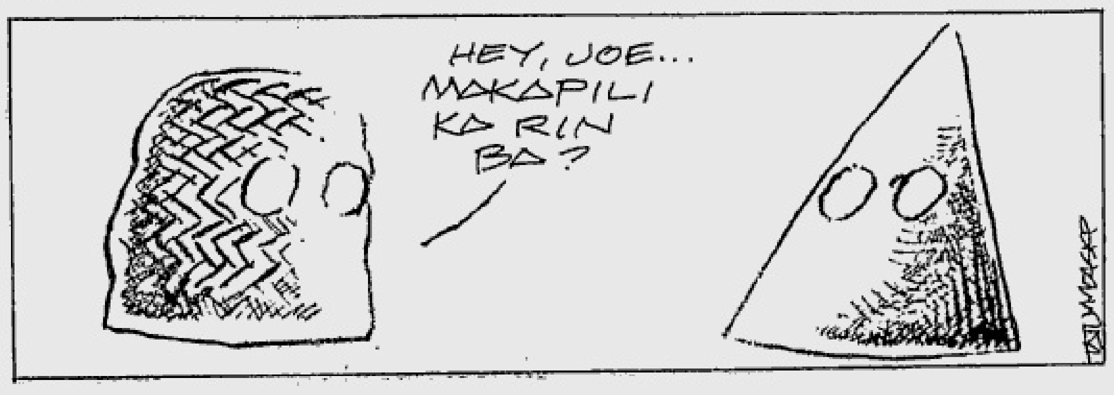
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


SO, IKAW PALA PIPO, ANG BABY MAMA MARY?
OO! AT ITO ANG BABY JESUS!!
ANG CUTE!!
O, BAKIT KA UMIIYAK?!!
HIKBI!!
GUSTO KO AKO ANG CUTE!!!

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


HEY, JOE... MAKAPILI KA RIN BA?

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You are a careful planner. You know what you want and you go after it. You often master a particular technology; you can be a perfectionist. In your personal life, you're very private. You value home, family and your personal hobbies. Major changes could take place in the year ahead similar to 1995-96. **Birthdate of:** Daryl Hannah, actress; Brendan Fraser, actor; Julianne Moore, actress.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): You will love discussions with others about philosophical, political and religious topics. You feel extremely idealistic today. You want to learn more; you want to expand your mind!

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): You can use the resources of others to help those who are less fortunate. A good day to do fund raising. It's also a good day to ask those who have more to help those who have less.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Discussions with partners or close friends will be helpful today. A warm heart-to-heart exchange is just what you need (or it might just be what you need to offer someone else).

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): You can definitely help a co-worker today. Or you might be able to help anyone in your job in some way. Consider this a wonderful opportunity to be generous and supportive to others.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Your creative vibes are hot today! Do anything that allows you to express your artistic talents. If you fall in love today, it might be just fantasy. (Sigh.)

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): A family member might need your help today. (Possibly, a family member is ready to help you.) Either way, it's important for family members to be there for each other today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): You'll spend time daydreaming today. Your imagination is in overdrive. Of course, according to fancy Eastern thought, everything we do is a dream.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): You want to buy something beautiful for yourself or loved ones. Possibly, you want to spend money in order to help someone, especially a family member.

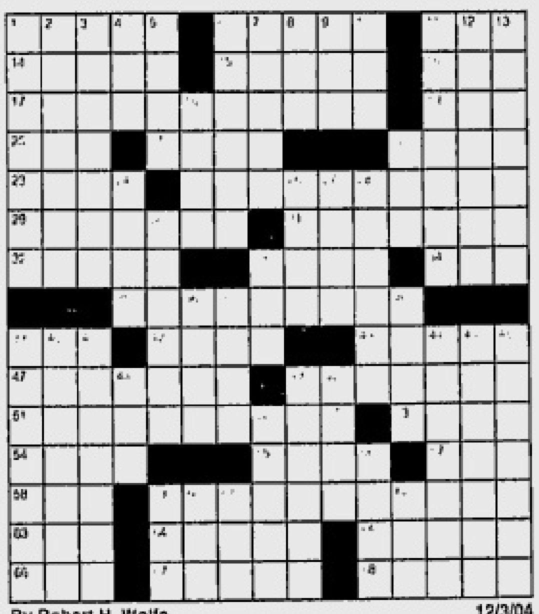
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): You seem to see the world on another level today. Not just the outer, physical details; instead, you sense connections between people and events.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): You can definitely trust your hunches and your sixth sense today. You might get a feeling about something. If so, it's probably right.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): This is a good day to work with charitable organizations. It's also a good day to get together with friends to figure out how to improve something or help someone.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): You might meet a teacher or someone who truly inspires you today. It's wonderful to meet people like this. They remind us of what we can actually be.

DAILY CROSSWORD



By Robert H. Wolfe
North Woodmere, NY
12/3/04

ACROSS
1 Command
6 Humble
11 Adjective for the Beatles
14 Loud, harsh sound
15 German noble
16 Part of APB
17 Pecking order?
19 B-F connection
20 Put into service
21 As soon as
22 Anna of "Nana"
23 Razor choice
25 Reverse order?
29 Lose evolutionary ground
31 Lament loudly
32 Reverie
33 North Carolina university
34 Shown the way
35 Religious order?
39 Strike sharply
42 Song for one
43 Start
47 Cream-filled pastries
49 Authentic
51 Ascending order?
53 Swiss capital
54 "__ of the Thousand Days"
55 ESA's partner on the ISS
57 Aussie hopper
58 Cover
59 Batting order?
63 Season in Burgundy
64 Sports venue
65 Like Humpty
66 The German
67 Oregon capital
68 Leveled in London

DOWN
1 Expectant
2 Revel noisily
3 Branch off
4 WNW's opposite
5 Adventure hero Williams
6 Calculating rack
7 Cake maker
8 Jackie's Onassis
9 Help!
10 Finnish twins?
11 True
12 Pasta preference
13 Mixed
18 Tolkien's trees
22 Our sun
24 Part of U.A.R.
26 __ and void
27 Hand-cream ingredient
28 Keeps going
30 Vomiting
33 Rock composer Brian
36 Classify
37 Ingrid in "Casablanca"
38 Intentionally ignore
39 Entertained in style
40 Monkshood
41 Take booty
44 Mountain ranges
45 On the way
46 Made to join a mortise
48 Copy
49 Greene of "Dances with Wolves"
50 Exxon, formerly
52 Silly
56 Love god
59 Auto fuel
60 Period of history
61 AT&T part
62 Gabor of "Green Acres"

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

B	E	A	V	■	G	Y	M	■	P	U	S	H	O	N
T	I	V	O	■	J	A	E	■	E	T	H	A	N	E
O	N	E	D	H	A	W	S	■	P	E	E	W	E	E
■	■	■	K	I	N	S	H	I	P	■	P	A	T	S
S	T	R	A	T	A	■	■	N	I	L	■	T	W	O
L	E	O	■	A	C	O	N	C	L	U	S	I	O	N
A	S	T	A	■	O	R	E	I	L	L	Y	■	■	■
T	H	E	S	E	■	D	R	S	■	U	N	A	P	T
■	■	■	S	T	E	E	V	E	S	■	C	L	E	O
W	H	E	N	T	I	R	E	D	O	F	■	T	R	U
A	U	X	■	E	L	L	■	■	L	I	P	O	U	T
I	S	P	Y	■	E	Y	E	S	O	R	E	■	■	■
S	H	O	W	M	E	■	T	H	I	N	K	I	N	G
T	U	S	C	A	N	■	C	O	N	■	E	R	I	E
S	P	E	A	R	S	■	H	O	G	■	S	E	N	T

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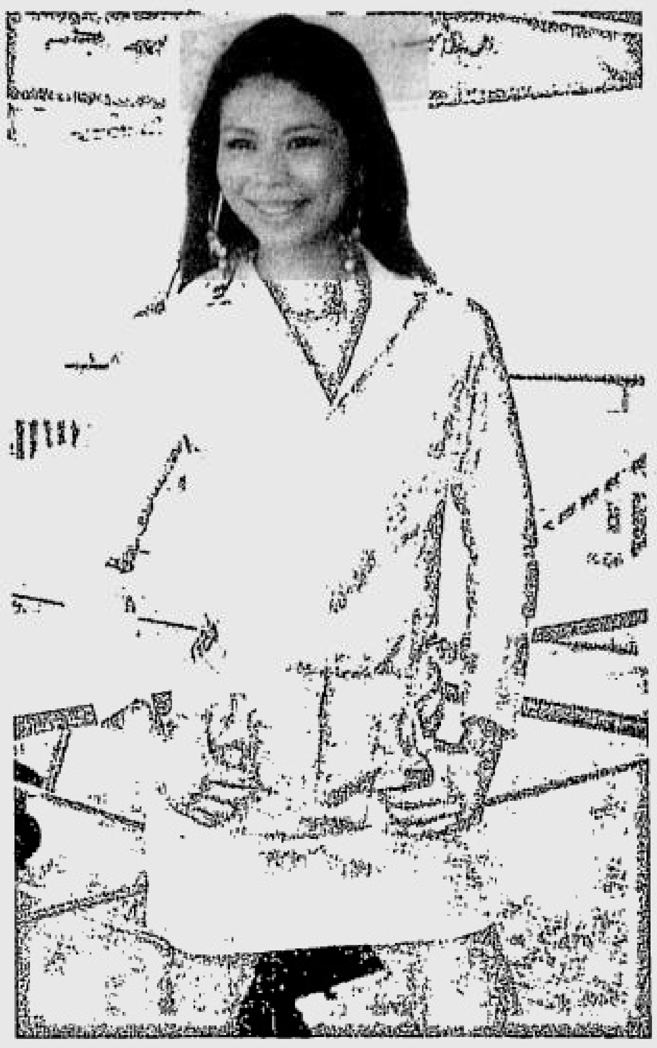
12/3/04

SPLASHES of unexpected color add drama to any outfit. Black skirt (P899), green halter knit top (P499.75) and black cardigan (P899)

Sweet sexy thing

Kashieca's latest collections reflect every woman's longing to be stylish and fun, sweet and sexy. In other words, unapologetically feminine. From flirty skirts to pretty pastels, it's sugar and spice and everything nice at Kashieca this season

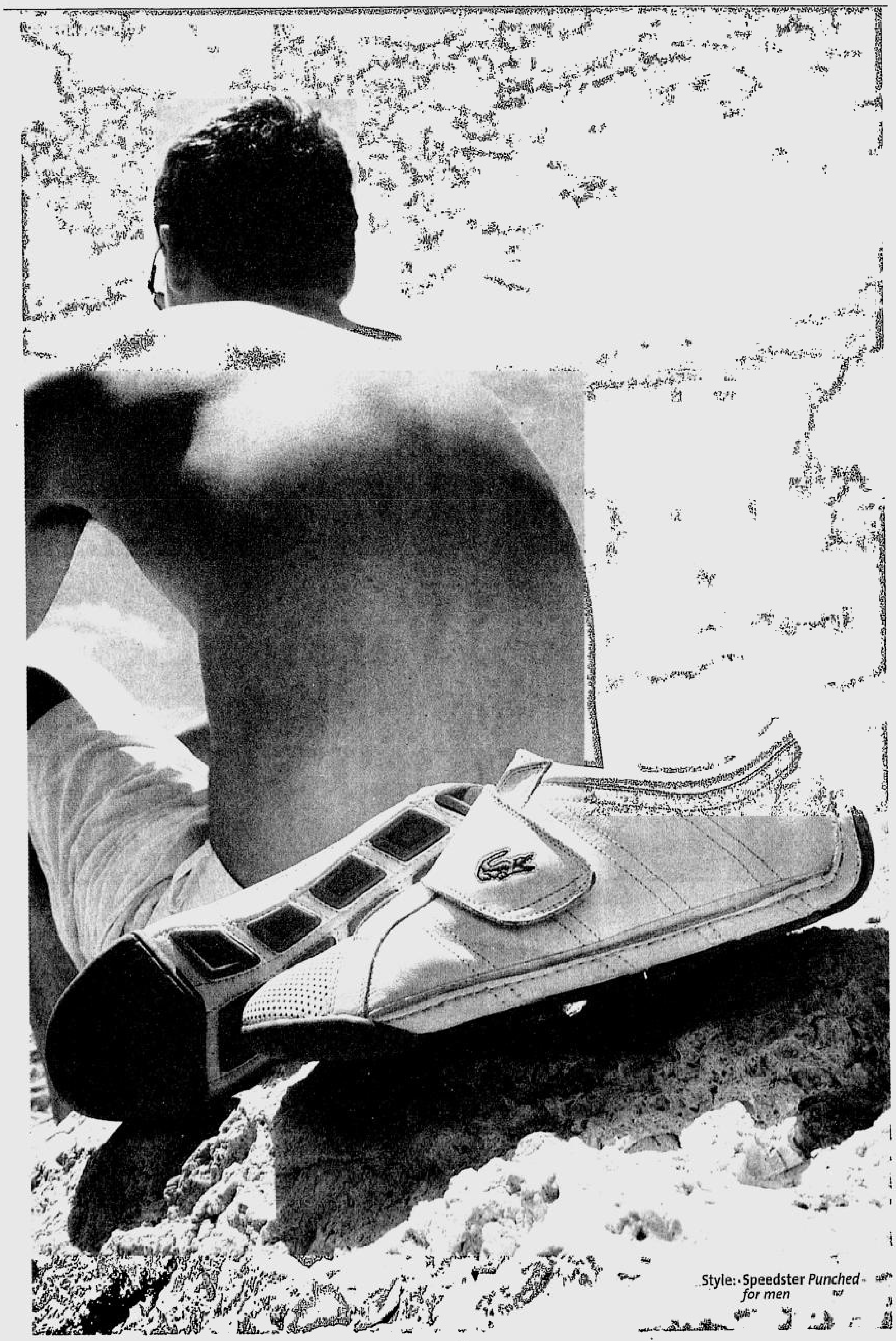
MODEL: RAYA MANANQUIL
STYLING: KEREN PASCUAL
PHOTOS: PATRICK UY
SHOT ON LOCATION
AT THE SUPERSTAR VIRGO



SWEETNESS and light. Pink long-sleeved blouse (P749.75) adds a touch of levity to the playful mint-green miniskirt (P699).

SWEET and saucy. Pink hooded cardigan (P899) layered over white top (P599) and pique skirt (P899)

SMART yet sweet. Black skirt (P899) with a striped blue shirt over a red top (P599). The red racer-back tank worn under a long-sleeved polo adds more drama to a staid business outfit.



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Style: Speedster *Punched for men*

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• THE POWER PLANT MALL, TEL. NO. 898-0933 • THE PODIUM, TEL. NO. 633-8226 • THE GATEWAY MALL, TEL. NO. 912-5726 • SM CITY DAVAO, TEL. NO. (082) 297-2510

Baang and Semacio to perform at the Park

PACO Park Presents opens "Delightful December" with baritone Jesus Emmanuel Baang and pianist Adrian Semacio tonight at 6 at Paco Park, San Marcelino, Manila. Admission is free.

GOINGS ON

FORUM. The recently-passed Republic Act 9262, which protects women and children from violence will be the subject of a forum at the UP College of Law auditorium today at 9 a.m. Everyone is invited.

EXPO. The Ilocos Region will showcase the riches of its provinces through Brilliance of the North Agri-trade, tourism and technology expo at City Plaza, San Fernando, La Union, on Dec. 3-19. Call 5360496/ 5251805.

CONCERTS. Concert at the Park features "Paskong Pinoy" the whole month of December. On Dec. 4, featured are the University of the East Chorale, Sindaw Performing Arts Guild, LOC Windstring Ensemble and Right Spelling Band; Dec. 5, Marissa Delgado's Dance Troupe, Musikito: Ang Batang Musiko, Nonoy and Pinky and First Born Child Band. Admission is free.

FORUM. The 43rd Orient of Southeast Asia Lions forum is ongoing until Dec. 5. President Macapagal-Arroyo will be the guest of honor during the opening ceremonies today, 2:30 p.m., at Folk Arts Theater. Call 5256538.

HOMECOMING. The UP College of Arts and Letters will mark its 21st year with a general homecoming of 1984, 1989 and 1994 alumni on Dec. 11, 2-6 p.m., at the Atrium of the new CAL building in Diliman, QC. Call 9287508.

PROMO. DSS Product makers, manufacturer of Blustar homecare products, offers Buy 1 Take 1 promo in supermarkets in Metro Manila, Luzon and Mindanao. The "Sagot sa Krisis ng Blustar" promo is implemented in Liana's Supermarkets, Landmark, Puregold, Uniwide Warehouse Stores, Robinsons Supermarkets, Big-R, Sta. Lucia East, Ever, Isetann, Masagana, Hi-Top, Glo-ri and Tropical Hut.

FAIR. The Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation will hold Photo Services Fair on Feb. 4-7, 2005 at Glorietta, Ayala Center, Makati. Call 8435341/ 8177420.

KIDDIE PARTY. Honda Cars Alabang hosted the Kiddie Masquerade Party for children of its customers. The event was organized in partnership with Summit Media Publishing, Goldilocks and The Picture Company.

BAZAAR. The International Christmas Bazaar runs until Dec. 5 at the Forum at the Philippine International Convention Center, Roxas Boulevard, Manila. The exhibit offers gift items, imported novelty products and top-of-the-line local crafts. Booths will also offer apparel, jewelry, toys, personal accessories, food stuff, house ware and more from Italy, Thailand, Japan Korea, France, Germany, the USA, Malaysia, Taiwan, China, Vietnam and Pakistan.

UP AWARDS OUTSTANDING SORORITY SISTERS
The Sigma Alpha Sorority of the University of the Philippines cited its outstanding Sigma Alphans in celebration of its ruby jubilee anniversary recently held at Discovery Suites. Awarded were Dr. Cynthia Villafuerte-del Mundo, medicine and the sciences; Dr. Ligaya Tiamson-Rubin, creative arts and literature; Amor Divina Ortiz-Tacad, emergent leadership; Rosalina de la Paz-Magat, business/entrepreneurship; Dr. Natalia Ma. Lourdes Miñeque-Morales, education; Cecilia Pabalan-Tolentino, international/cultural relations; Josefina Gutierrez-Tayag, community leadership; Sandiganbayan Justice Teresita Leonardo-de Castro, public/government service.

Permanent bazaar in time for holidays

THE PERMANENT bazaar at the Ortigas Town Center has opened in time for holiday shopping.

The Bazaar @ the Ortigas Town Center is close to the Ortigas Home Depot, restaurants and coffee shops, and Pier One Bar and Grill.

Fashion items, home and Christmas décor, foods and other items will be offered at rock-bottom prices.

Organizers of the bazaar handpicked the over 300 concessionaires occupying the ground floor of the fully air-conditioned complex.

The organizers themselves, boasting of years of bazaar experience, are confident that the complex will prove to be the next best thing in the shopping scene.

Anno Domini, Cut Unlimited, Events Masters and Philanway tried to make sure shoppers will have a wide array of items to choose from.

The Ortigas Town Center is located at 1 Julia Vargas Avenue, across the gate of Valle Verde 3. Call 7210734, 6316487, 6316686, or 6319788.

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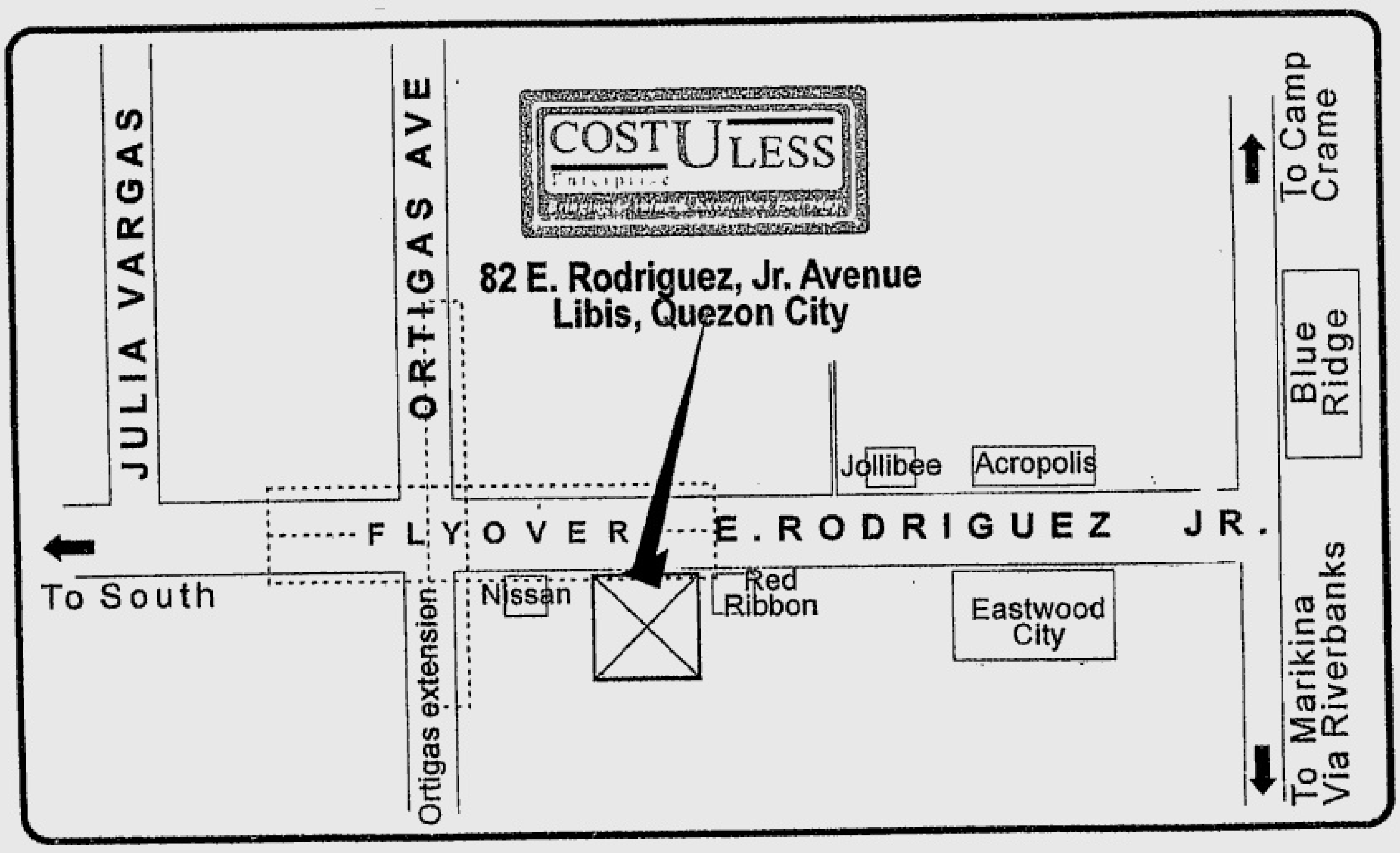

82 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Libis, Quezon City

ZENEIDA "Bibot" Amador

LIFESTYLE

When gods die

LIFE-STYLED

Thelma Sioson San Juan

WHEN we got word that **Zeneida "Bibot" Amador** was dying, we were sad and disbelieving—but, we rebelled, gods don't die. We got the same disbelief when **Rolando Tinio** died almost a decade ago.

These people weren't only pillars of Philippine culture. To us who had covered their feats of genius all these years, they were a pillar of our own career. If we produced exceptional stories on them, it was because they were exceptional stories themselves.

Their vision—the pain and glory of their journey—was the stuff that enriched our career, and rocked society irreversibly.

And they fought for their vision every single day, no matter the odds.

They didn't only achieve, mentor and mold, they were also invincible. They didn't recognize defeat, no matter the hard times.

WHEN/13

> Bibot didn't only produce Rep and generations of artists. She made theater part and parcel of the Filipino lifestyle

MENCHU Lauchengco Yulo and Monique Wilson with Cocoy Laurel at the piano during the funeral mass-cum-tribute to Bibot at Onstage Greenbelt

JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

SM BACOOR
ENTERTAINMENT LIVE

Yachang Album Tour
December 3, 2004
Friday • 5:00pm
LGF, Centermall

April Boy Album Tour
December 4, 2004
Saturday • 5:00pm
LGF, Centermall

Divo Bayer Album Tour
December 5, 2004
Sunday • 5:00pm
LGF, Centermall

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EDSA, Mandaluyong City
Tel. 635 6218

Makati
3416 Guernica Street
Palanan, Makati City
(near Cash & Carry)
Tel. 757 2286

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DECEMBER

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20%OFF
WHOLE MONTH OF DECEMBER
(selected artists)

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Dec 8-15 20%OFF Hair Color
Dec 16-24 20%OFF Blowdry
Dec 26-31 20%OFF Hair Treatment

Get a chance to win a SAMSUNG Cellphone!

Sign-up and get your Piandré TDC (Thanksgiving in December Card) today and avail of these great holiday discounts, and a chance to win Samsung mobile phones at our raffle draw!

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LIDIS 437-7021 ; 437-7028 ; 437-7058
SAN JUAN 726-1084 ; 727-2196

Per DTI-NCR Permit No 2073, Series of 2004

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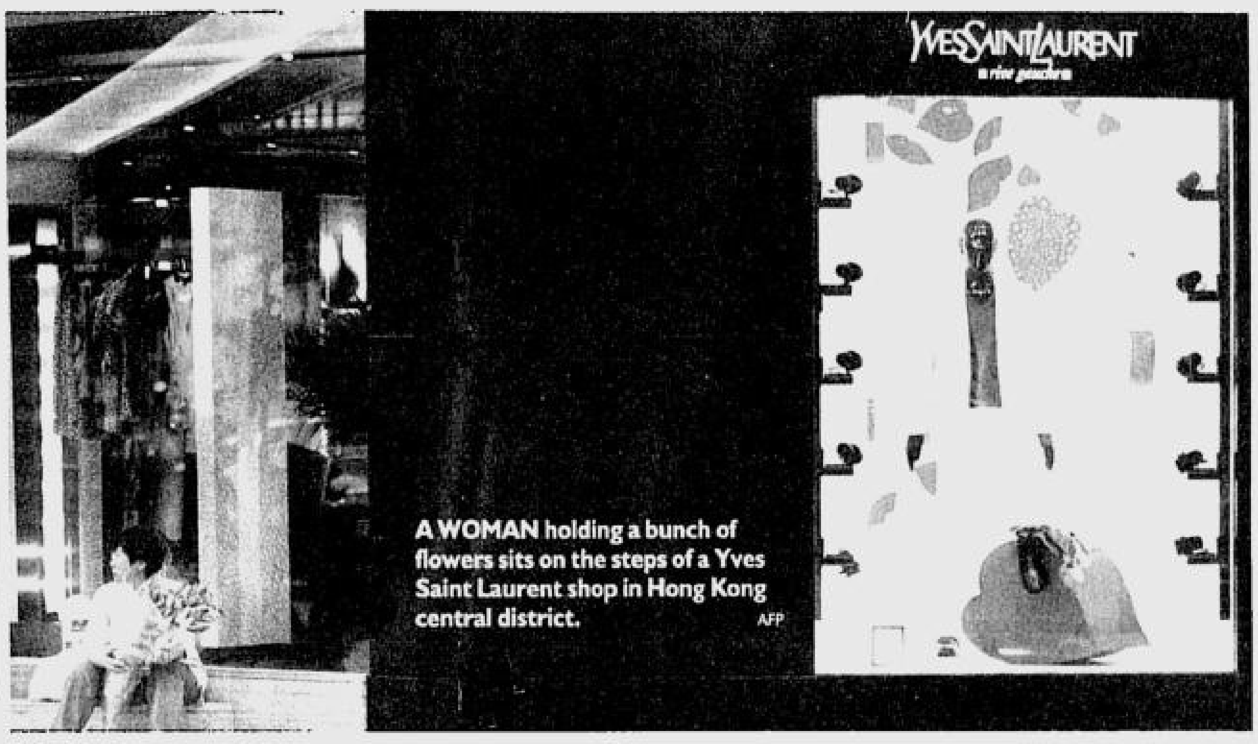
A WOMAN walks by the illuminated billboard of a Christian Dior shop at a shopping mall in Hong Kong. Seven years of economic woes may have taught Asia's famously zealous shoppers a thing or two about restraint but, with economies picking up, they are again flocking to the region's luxury goods stores, only this time with a more discerning eye. AFP

A LOCAL resident walks past a billboard promoting Salvatorre Ferragamo fashion goods. AFP



A WOMAN holding a bunch of flowers sits on the steps of a Yves Saint Laurent shop in Hong Kong central district. AFP

Hong Kong lives in the lap of luxury

HONG KONG—Designer-clad women browse the new arrival racks of a French couturier store; well-heeled gents snap up suits from a bespoke US outfitter; and trendy youngsters fill a club-like European sports gear store.

Hong Kongers of all ages fill this mall in search of the world's most prestigious—and expensive—labels.

But contrary to appearances, this is not one of the glitzy emporia of the fashion-conscious downtown district. Nor is it in the rarefied atmosphere of the super-rich Peak neighborhood. This is Festival Walk, a sleek suburban-style shopping arcade in the middle of the grimy Kowloon district.

While shoppers in the rest of the world must travel huge distances to find stores selling such items, Hong Kongers' huge demand for big-name labels means luxury goods are sold all over the city in places you'd expect to find bargain stores and fastfood chains.

"Hong Kong is an advanced, business-minded, materialistic city: As long as they exist, Hong Kongers will always love their designer labels," said Keith Chan, manager of Milan Station, a chain of stores that specialize in restored designer handbags.

Hong Kong is jammed with high-end shopping malls: a walk through downtown needn't once involve stepping onto the pavement as all major buildings contain malls linked by overhead walkways.

Each of them bristles with the highest-profile brand names like Christian Dior, Chanel, Louis Vuitton and Hermes. Road-level stores boast prestigious car marques like Rolls Royce and Jaguar.

And all of them brim with wealthy people who have money to burn.

"We don't buy out of necessity—as long as it's something that is up-to-date and stylish, something that we like, we would buy it," said May Kwok. In the local parlance, Kwok is known as a *tai tai*—the non-working wife of a wealthy businessman.

"We like clothes, shoes and cosmetics but we are not looking for anything particular here," said Kwok, who is in her mid-50s.

She is typical of label lovers here, and spends an average of HK$20,000 a month on luxury goods. She has seven wardrobes full of clothes at home, she said.

"I have too much, sometimes I have to give them away," she says, clutching a bag of Gucci goods.

Asia accounts for 40 percent of world luxury brand sales and outside of Japan, Hong Kongers buy more luxury items than any other Asians.

Emerging Chinese market

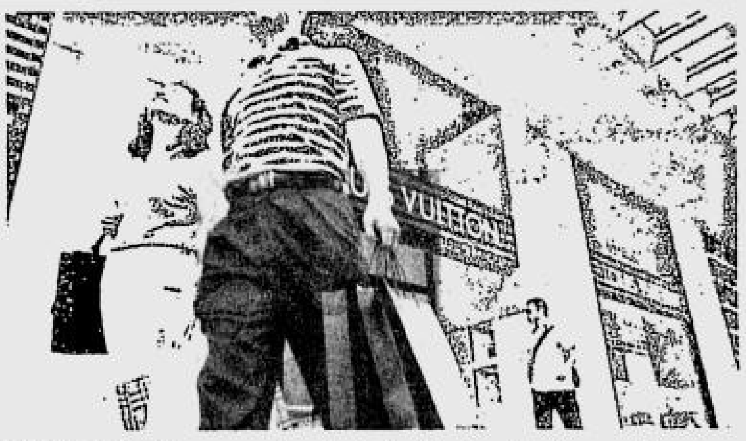
That demand and the city's proximity to China's huge emerging market are the reasons brands like LVMH, Prada, and Dolce and Gabbana have their Asia-Pacific headquarters here.

Sales have been boosted by a surge in the number of mainland Chinese tourists visiting Hong Kong courtesy of a relaxed travel policy in China.

High tariffs on luxury goods in China make the cheaper prices in Hong Kong a big attraction for Chinese visitors. Government figures show they spent HK$6,018 per capita in 2003 compared with HK$5,502 from overseas tourists.

Morgan Stanley consumer analyst Angela Moh estimates Chinese tourist spending in Hong Kong accounts for about 20 percent of retail sales a year.

"If you are going to the stores like Gucci, the chances of running into someone from the mainland China is very high," she said.



MAINLAND Chinese tourists loaded with shopping bags walk past a Louis Vuitton shop in the Tsim Sha Tsui area of Hong Kong. AFP

As long as they exist, Hong Kongers will always love their designer labels

Shanghai resident Tan Xueping, 41, and her five friends took a special three-day shopping trip to Hong Kong.

Although Shanghai has no shortage of its own luxury stores, Tan explains that new products are launched here before going north.

"There are also more foreign brands here, which we like," she said.

Cast-offs

Milan Station's Chan understands the city's obsession with luxury: He has made a success out of selling the upper classes' cast-offs to a middle class desperate to get on the social ladder.

"Some consumers may not use their expensive handbags more than a few times," he said. "Some women buy new handbags all the time—some use them for a few days and some don't even use them at all. Then they sell them to us.

"For some, owning something is more important than actually using it." *AFP*

Model Heidi Klum in new TV 'runway run-off'

NEW YORK—Heidi Klum is hosting her own reality TV show, but that doesn't mean the German supermodel is a big fan of the genre. She prefers to call "Project Runway"—a contest among 12 aspiring fashion designers—a documentary.

"We're going to show the public what it's like to be a designer. I think people will be interested to see what it's really like, how talented designers are," said Klum. "What we're looking for is who is talented, not who is the funniest, not who is good-looking."

Klum, 31, has watched "America's Next Top Model" a few times because that show's creator and host, Tyra Banks, is a friend, and she's also caught Donald Trump's "The Apprentice" once or twice.

"Project Runway" brought contestants from around the United States to New York for a series of "fashion challenges." Their work was judged by Klum, designer Michael Kors, Elle magazine's Nina Garcia and Constance White from eBay.

Viewers will see taped episodes that whittle down the number of contestants to three finalists, who will appear in a live runway run-off contest in February during New York Fashion Week.

"You could see very, very quickly who wasn't going to be up to the challenges but then it got very difficult because (the remaining contestants) were equally good," Klum said.

The show premieres Wednesday on the US cable channel, Bravo.

Klum, who also serves as the show's executive producer, said she wanted to find wearable clothes. "The final thing comes down to talent. The winners have to be good, they have to represent themselves well and they have to be able to work with others."

The winner will receive $100,000 (euro75,500) in seed money to launch a fashion line, according to Bravo's website. *AP*

HEIDI Klum (center) poses with other models at a fashion show by "Bravo" cable TV channel to promote the new reality show "Project Runway" in New York City. AFP

When gods die

From page I1

In Bibot's cycle, the seasons had nothing to do with recession or inflation, but only with the trove of theater material that must be staged before an audience.

As Bibot and her kind plodded on season after season, we have come to see them as immortal, more so when one heard her holler and caught her bravado.

In our pockets of the universe, gods like Bibot first struck fear in your heart, then awe, until in time, you got bent and molded by her into fine talent, if not work of art.

This was what the generations of theater artists went through under Bibot. They became creations of art and Bibot was the creator, creations who themselves would create others in turn.

So you see that immortality was no exaggeration.

Bibot didn't only produce good theater. What many must realize is that Bibot made theater part and parcel of the Filipino lifestyle.

Through Repertory Philippines, she, with diehard theater artists **Baby Barredo** and **Joy Virata**, got us into the habit of going to the theater season after season. Thursday was opening night with media in attendance, Fridays and Saturdays were dates at the theater, Sundays were matinees for the family.

This, she started doing at a time when people said it couldn't be done.

In the '70s, in the Repertory's old home at Insular Life Auditorium in Makati, Bibot, Baby and the Repertory artists staged Broadway plays amid cynicism, if not outright condemnation, that they were "irrelevant" and remnants of our "colonial mentality."

But their detractors just didn't get it. In Bibot's vision, theater is theater, an audience is an audience, and an artist must be honed and polished relentlessly.

In time, they won converts, and more important, they bred batch after batch of theater talents that would later give the world the cast of "Miss Saigon" and "Les Miserables."

I still remember how Bibot chuckled as she described their first nights of performance at Insular. Their ragtag ensemble had an audience of less than five, consisting of relatives—and Bibot's driver.

Business strategy

It was an uphill climb but Bibot and Repertory had the gumption—and the business strategy—to make good that vision. They ran Repertory like a business —with a marketing unit that was in hot pursuit of corporate sponsors and theater patrons, and another unit that built the audience base for theater seasons, and still another that promoted the productions in the dailies.

Of course for the longest time, the artists themselves, led by Joy Virata, did these multi-tasks: Artists by night, businesswomen by day.

In time, big business was sponsoring Repertory and Philippine theater in general, people were buying season tickets to the theater, and most important, theater artists were getting paid to perform. This was how Bibot professionalized Philippine theater.

As for us, the audience, she gave us a good time in the theater. She didn't turn theater into a charity case. She didn't waste her time asking for government subsidy. She and Repertory did it on their own.

Through superb performance, artistry, uncanny choice of material and quality production, Repertory made you truly enjoy the theater—one that's worth your evening.

In recent years, the times must not have been that good for Repertory and theater in general. Rep lost its longtime home at Shangri-La Mall and now stages its productions at Onstage. The traffic and hard commute around Metro Manila don't make it easy for the audience to make it to the theater regularly. There are so many events to compete with theater time.

But I doubt if Bibot would have thrown in the towel. Gods don't give up.

Soft side

I feel privileged to have seen the soft side of this martinet. When her house was new, she asked us over for lunch. It was a day I'd never forget, for there I saw Bibot in an entirely different milieu. At home. Domesticated.

People would be incredulous, as we were, watching her fuss and putter around the house, while Baby stayed put at the dining table. I couldn't believe how she took keen interest in the interiors and the décor, from the iron grill work to the pottery in the garden and the plates that adorned the dining room.

She was relaxed, almost docile, as she tried to make us feel at home. The bravura was there, especially as she showed us the walls on the second floor filled with book shelves. From there you looked down on the living room.

Bibot didn't make it to Christmas. (It was uncanny that a few weeks before, Paz Yuchengco, one of the staunchest patrons of Repertory, also passed away.) She was 71, but it was still an early death.

The younger generation that badly needs the right icons will not have enough of a Zeneida Amador—her artistry, zeal and work values.

It's a gloomy day. No wonder it's raining relentlessly in December.

Patis' jewels

Patis Tesoro has a unique Christmas bazaar on Sunday, Dec. 5. She and her Pamintuan (her maiden name) family, from her aunt, niece to nephew, will "expose the family jewels."

These are finely crafted art forms, handmade beaded acrylic jewelry, among others. It'll be at Green in the City, 385 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong.

E-mail the author at tsanjuan@skyinet.net

Lingerie for the true you

TRULY You lace padded balcony bra

MARKS & Spencer's Truly You lingerie collection combines the finest laces and satins for functional yet flatteringly feminine knickers, bras and camisoles.

The collection evokes a new sensuality with lingerie pieces in flattering shapes embellished with laces, silk prints and embroideries. The bras create a sculpted '50s look and a cleavage.

Transparent tops are complemented with flesh-toned bras and satin-print camisoles, functional with an underlying edge of elegance. Lace strings are delicately crisscrossed at the back for a luxurious finish and a sleek silhouette.

Complementing the bras are underpants including smooth print satin strings and low rise short.

Marks & Spencer has branches at Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Glorietta 4, Greenbelt 3 and SM Megamall. Rustan's is the official local franchisee.

Like no other mall in the world
Gateway
Beside Araneta Coliseum

Welcome to shopping like no other
this Christmas

The Oasis
Spectacular floating garden with towering Royal Palms

Concierge Service
Takes the load off so you can load up on more shopping

5,000 parking spaces around Araneta Center
Gateway alone has 700 indoor parking slots

Rustan's Department Store
Your kind of store. like no other in Quezon City

Fresh Supermarket
Holiday goodies fresh from the tree. from all over the world

10 of the country's best and biggest cinema screens
with the plushiest seats ever

FOOD EXPRESS
15 best-in-class. quick-service restaurants

World Class Brands
With over 200 of your favorite brands

Gourmet Tower
20 casual dining restaurants
all with a view of the Oasis

MRT 2 and LRT3 direct access
For car-less shopping to beat Christmas traffic

TACO BELL
Taco Bell
Ringing in record crowds

Now Open

'Tis the season to count your blessings_and all the SAVINGS!

Christmas Sale

FROM DECEMBER 3, 2004 TO DECEMBER 15, 2004

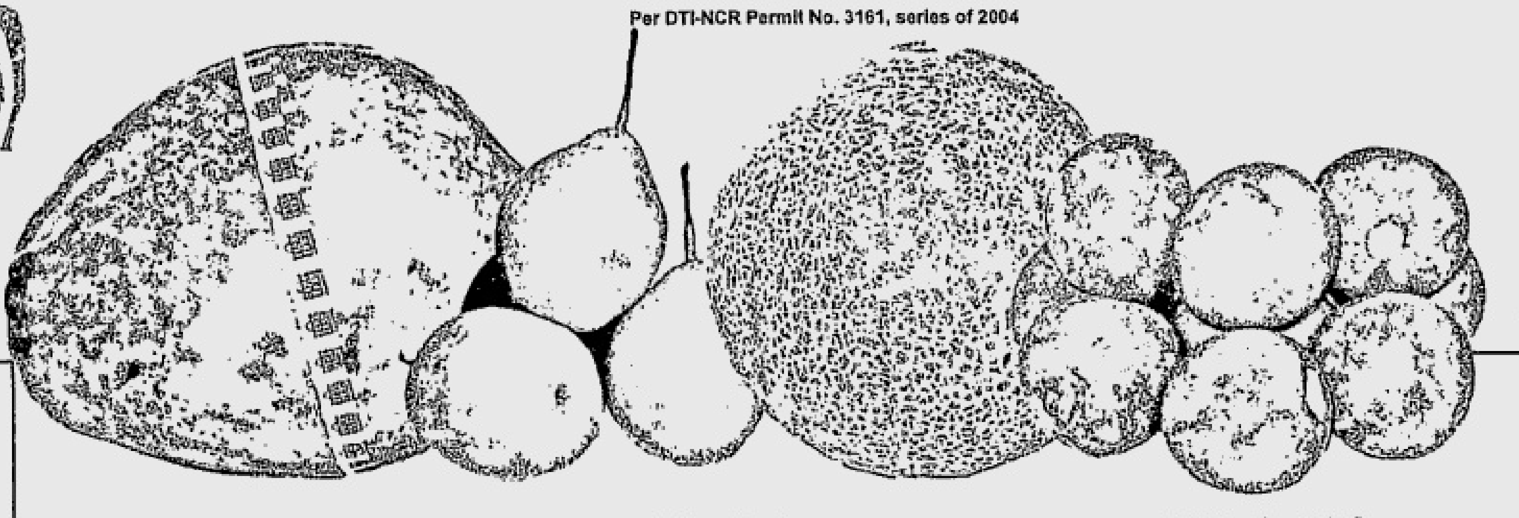
THE CHAIN MARTS!
SUPER VALUE STORES

MAKATI Supermart ALABANG
Theater Drive cor. Commerce Ave., Alabang Town Center,
Alabang-Zapote Road, Alabang, Muntinlupa
Tels. 850-7687 • 807-2208 • Store Hours: 9:30 am - 8:30 pm

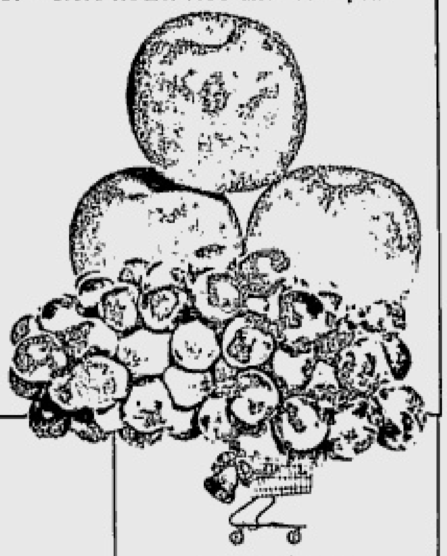
Uni Mart
Greenhills Shopping Center
Tels. 721-0592 • 721-0612 • Store Hours: 9:30 am - 8:00 pm
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3161, series of 2004

CASH & CARRY SUPERMARKET
Buendia cor. South Superhighway
Tels. 844-7386 • 843-7382 • 843-3469 • Store Hours: 9:30 am - 8:00 pm

Cock Edam
Cheese Ball
1.6kg ₱499^{50}/ball
Dutch Master
Cheese Ball
750g ₱313^{50}/ball



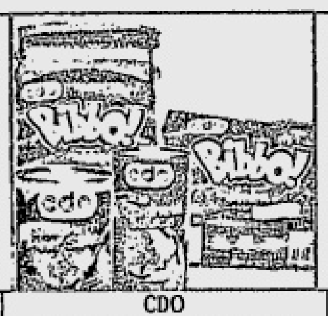
Sinta Papaya ₱18.90/kg • **Ya Pears** ₱31.50/kg
Cantaloupe ₱26.25/kg • **Chico** ₱36.75/kg



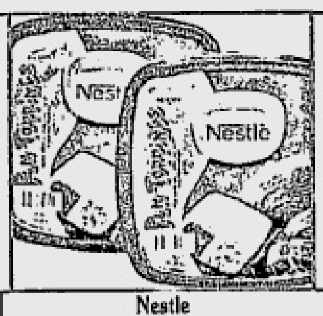
X'mas Rose
Grapes
₱129^{50}/kg
Fuji
Apple
₱52^{50}/kg

Nescafe
Classic Refill 100g ₱50.10/pk
50g ₱26.15/pk 25g ₱14.05/pk
Classic Stick 84/2g ₱118.75/pk

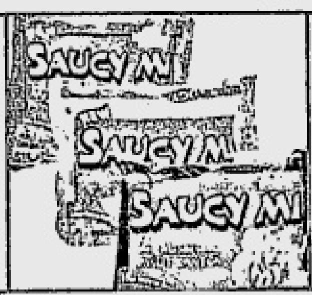
Purefoods
Chunkee Corned Beef
190g ₱23.75/can Tender Juicy
Regular Hotdog 500g ₱90.50/pk



CDO
Spaghetti Sauce 385g ₱27.10/can
Spaghetti Meat Sauce 260g ₱22.80/can
Bibbo Regular Hotdog 490g ₱84.60/pk
1kg ₱133.90/bag



Nestle
Ice Cream Fun Toppings Classic
950ml ₱96.70/tub Supreme
950ml ₱101.50/tub 1.7L ₱202.00/tub
Classic 1.7L ₱202.00/tub

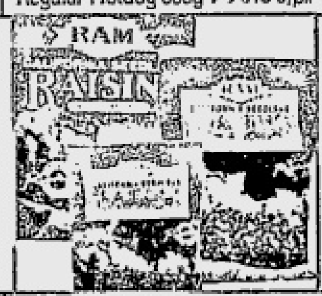


Saucy Mi
Instant Pancit Canton Original,
Toyomansi, Hot & Spicy,
Beef & Onion 65g ₱4.80/pk

Dumex
1Plus Honey 800g ₱299.60/can
1.6kg ₱579.00/can
3Plus Honey 800g ₱299.60/can
1.6kg ₱582.45/can

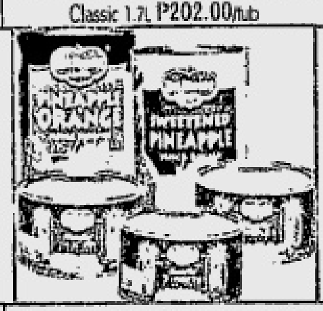
Mama Sita's
Barbeque Marinade 652.1g ₱58.80/bot
Oyster Sauce 765.5g ₱78.40/bot
Caldereta Mix 57g ₱16.15/pk
Kare-Kare Mix 57g ₱15.00/pk

Athena
Milk Powder 1kg ₱115.80/can
Enervon
HP Pouch 1kg ₱254.30
Prime Milk 1kg ₱415.00/can
Prime Choco 1kg ₱119.00/can



Ram
Raisins 6's30g ₱43.75/6's 100g ₱21.75/pk
200g ₱37.75/box 225g ₱44.80/box
Sevilla
Raisin 6's30g ₱10.25/6's
100g ₱20.70/can 200g ₱40.55/box

Zest-O
Pet Cola, Rootbeer, Twist, Squr Orange, RC Cola
500ml ₱14.00/bot Calamansi Soda, Dalandan Soda,
Fruit Zoda, Pomelo 500ml ₱14.50/bot
QuickChow
Instant Beef Mami, Chicken Hot Mami,
Instant Mami Chicken 55g ₱4.25/pk

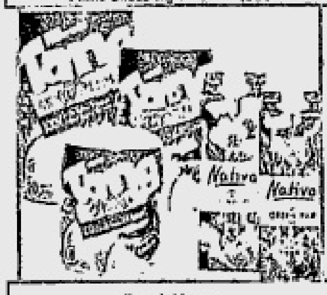


Del Monte
Sweetened Pine Juice Drink 1380ml ₱36.30/can
Pine Orange 1380ml ₱36.50/can Pine Sliced Flat
234g ₱16.75/can Pine Chunks Flat,
Pine Tidbits Flat 234g ₱16.10/can

Campbell's
Pork & Beans 453.6g ₱38.50/can
Chicken Noodle 304.8g ₱37.00/can
Brocoli Cheese 304.8g ₱62.50/can
Cream Of Asparagus 304.8g ₱51.50/can
Cheddar Cheese 304.8g ₱70.50/can

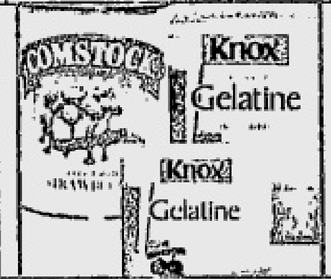
Doña Elena
Red Wine 750ml ₱105.00/bot
Mistral
Rouge Dessert Wine 750ml ₱125.00/bot

Dorito's
Taco, Nacho Cheesier, Smoken Bbq 198.4g ₱73.50/pk
Baked Dorito Nacho 226.8g ₱94.00/pk
Planters
Cheese Curls, Balls 127.6g ₱49.50/can
Potato Chips Bbq. 99.2g ₱56.50/can



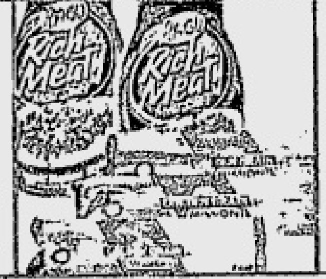
Rauch Nativa
Green Tea Lemon, Ginkgo Tea 1L ₱55.50/tetra
Tang Orange
Makes 8.6L ₱175.50/jug Makes 5.7L ₱125.50/jug
Makes 19L ₱320.50/jug

Falcons Valley
Fruit Cocktail 822g ₱60.80/can
Jolly
Tropical Fruit Cocktail w/ Guava
850g ₱34.50/can Mandarin Orange
425.3g ₱26.50/can

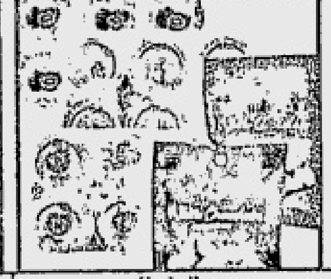


Comstock
Strawberry Pie Filling 595.4g ₱92.50/can
Knox
Gelatine Unflavored
28.35g ₱55.50/pk 336.8g ₱375.50/box

Hormel
Real Bacon Bits 85.1g ₱98.50/bot
Masterfoods
Mint Jelly 290g ₱129.50/bot
French's
Bold & Spicy Brown Mustard 340.2g ₱57.00/bot
Colman's
Mustard Powder 454g ₱129.00/can

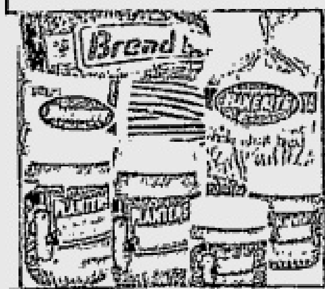


Golden Grain
Linguine 453.6g ₱38.50/bag Long Spaghetti,
Long Vermicelli, Thin Spaghetti 453.6g ₱34.50/bag
Ragu
Rich & Meaty Mama's Meat Sauce, Sausage &
Pepper, Classic Italian 907.20g ₱185.50/bot



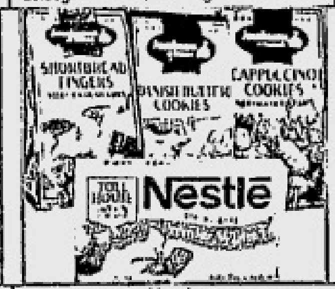
Vochelle
White Chocolate Pouch, Almond,
Assorted Nut 80g ₱45.50/pk
Yame
Pudding Assorted Flavor 6's/80g ₱45.50/pk

S&W
Whole Kernel Corn 432.3g ₱25.50/can
Cream Style Corn 418.2g ₱25.50/can
Sun-Maid
Raisins 100g ₱18.75/pk

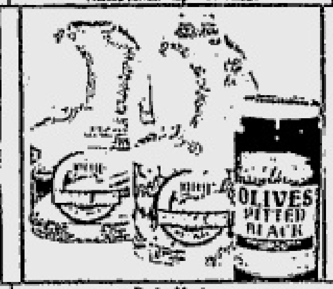


Bakerite
Bread Bar 450g ₱25.20/pk
Econo Loaf Bread 620g ₱31.45/pk
Whole Wheat Bread 450g ₱32.85/pk
Planters
Peanut Butter Creamy/Chunky 340.2g ₱74.50/bot
510.3g ₱[illegible]/bot

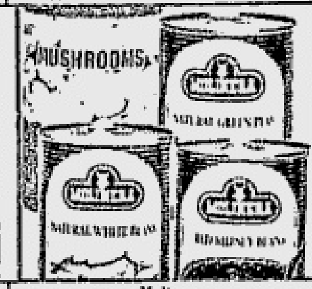
ReaLemon
Juice 425.3g ₱45.50/bot
Kool-Aid
Lemonade, Orange, Strawberry
538.7g ₱112.50/bot



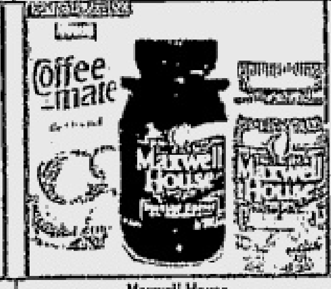
Nestle
Premiere White Baking Bars
170.1g ₱105.50/box
Jacobsens
Cookies Assorted 227g ₱84.50/pk



Doña Maria
Pitted Black Olives, Sliced Black Olives
330g ₱60.00/bot
Jolly
Canola Oil, 2L ₱168.00/jug
Corn Oil 2L ₱186.50/jug

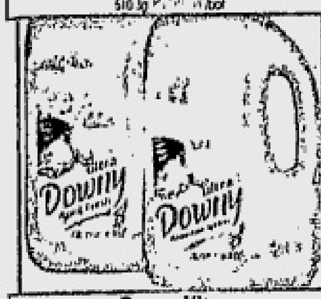


Molinera
Natural Chick Pea, Green Pea,
Lentils, White Beans, Red Kidney Beans
400g ₱23.00/can
Zi-Shan
Button Mushrooms 425g ₱25.50/can



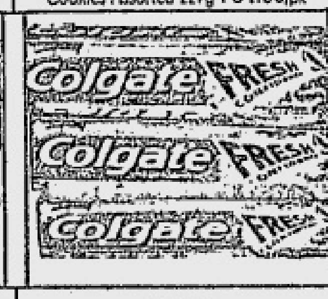
Maxwell House
Instant Coffee 226.8g ₱195.50/bot
340.2g ₱300.50/bot Instant Decaf
226.8g ₱240.50/bot
Carnation
Coffeemate 311.9g ₱90.50/bot 453.6g ₱120.50/bot

Nabisco
Chips Ahoy 453.6g ₱130.50/pk
Reduced Fat 510.3g ₱155.50/pk
Oreo Reduced Fat 510.3g ₱150.50/pk

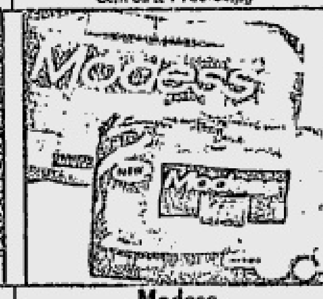


Downy Ultra
Clean Breeze, Mountain Spring,
April Fresh 1.8L ₱363.60/jug
April Fresh 600ml ₱148.00/jug
1.2L ₱252.50/jug

Ariel
Power Wash Sunshine Fresh, Ultramatic
800g ₱111.75/bag
Safeguard
Soap Ginseng 150g ₱33.75/cake
Pampers
Comfort XL 34's L 38's ₱291.45/bag

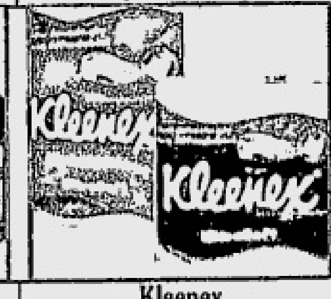


Colgate
Fresh Confidence, Plus Whitening
50ml ₱25.20/tube 100ml ₱40.10/tube
160ml ₱58.80/tube



Modess
Silky Dry 8's ₱27.70/pk
Cottony Soft Maxi, Light Blue
8's ₱19.10/pk

Astring-O-Sol
Gold, Freshmint 60ml ₱43.95/bot
120ml ₱74.65/bot 250ml ₱128.15/bot
360ml ₱162.80/bot Ice 60ml ₱37.30/bot
120ml ₱62.80/bot 250ml ₱112.35/bot
Specialist 120ml ₱93.10/bot



Kleenex
Bathroom Tissue 200 Sheets 2Ply
12pk ₱158.70/bag
4pk ₱55.15/bag

Sanicare
Bathroom Tissue 600's 9pk ₱118.30/bag
400's 12pk ₱111.40/bag
Cheers
Table Napkin Folded 300's ₱82.95/pk
Jade
Table Napkin Folded 300's ₱71.75/pk

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Louie C. Camino
Assistant Editor Emmie G. Velarde

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REGINE'S REIGNING SEASON
Tonight and tomorrow night at the Araneta Coliseum, Regine Velasquez's concert "Reigning Still" will happen after the songbird's four years of absence from the concert scene. For the concert, Regine was present in every pre-production meeting, brainstormings, etc. "I really want this concert to be my most spectacular ever," shares the singer who, aside from being the show's star, is also its stage director. Her guests in "Reigning Still" are Ariel Rivera, Sarah Geronimo, Rachel Ann Go, Sheryn Regis, Kyla, Francis M, Andrew E, SM Chorale and Hotlegs. Raul Mitra is the musical director. "Reigning Still" is presented by Smart, Progress Gold and Cafe Lupe. The concert is staged by Aria Productions headed by Regine's manager, Cacai Velasquez-Mitra. Tickets are available at SM Ticketnet (911-5555).

Ronnie Lazaro finally spreads his wings and starts to fly

By Pablo A. Tariman
Contributor

THE ACTOR who won the Best Supporting trophy as the Muslim datu in Marilou Diaz-Abaya's "Bagong Buwan" has been through an interesting evolution.

Born in Fabrica, Sagay City in Negros Occidental, Lazaro had a two-year singing stint in the tenor section of the La Salle (Bacolod) Glee Club, during which he got to sing "I Have Dreamed" as Lun Tha in a local production of "The King and I."

One Manny Julian discovered his theater potential in Bacolod, then he did improvisational plays with Peque Gallaga, and soon he was good enough to play the role of the caretaker in the Lino Brocka film, "Gumising Ka, Maruja," which was shot in Bacolod.

"That was my first film. When I saw it at Era Theater in Bacolod later, I couldn't help telling myself, 'Finally I am immortalized.'"

The actor turned 47 last November 14. He is "deep in marital bliss" with his wife Lola, and is the father of a six-year-old boy, Gabriel. "I am still overwhelmed every time I see my son," he gushes. "I never thought I'd ever be a father; that is why I try to be a good one."

Ronnie is thankful for a lot of good projects coming his way at this time. He is in Lav Diaz's 10-hour opus, "The Evolution of the Filipino Family." He is in four of the entries to the Cine Malaya short film competition and, foremost of all, he reprises the role of the *taong grasa* (village idiot) in "Ang Panaghoy Sa Suba (The Call of the River)," a movie that Cesar Montano directs.

Soft spot

Of the Cine Malaya entries, his interest is keenest in a film titled "Barioke," which is about the ubiquitous videoke, and how it changed life in a barrio. He plays the role of the barrio captain who accepts a videoke as payment for a debt incurred by a friend who passed away.

Needless to say, Ronnie has a soft spot for independent filmmakers. "I like to invest in them because our film industry needs new blood," he says. "They might be the answer to the present economic crisis plaguing the business. (But) basically, I like acting in independent films because I am more relaxed, I have more leeway to be more creative and I discover new things about acting."

GIVING ACTING a good name. Lazaro as an Indio insurgent in the Raymund Red film "Sakay"

One such short film he appeared in—"Anino," directed by Raymund Red—became the first Filipino film to win a major award in Cannes. The Lav Diaz opus will be shown at the UP Film Center on Dec. 17. The actor points out: "You have to give to the filmmaker. (Lav) is the only filmmaker in the entire world who does that (five-to 10-hour movies) and still gets good reviews from USA's Variety Magazine. I like working with him as well. With filmmakers of his kind, the actor is free to experiment; he doesn't have to perform, he can just be the character."

Thus far, Ronnie Lazaro is clearly in the league of Pen Medina and Nonie Buencamino, who give theater a good name and who have both shone even more brightly in movies.

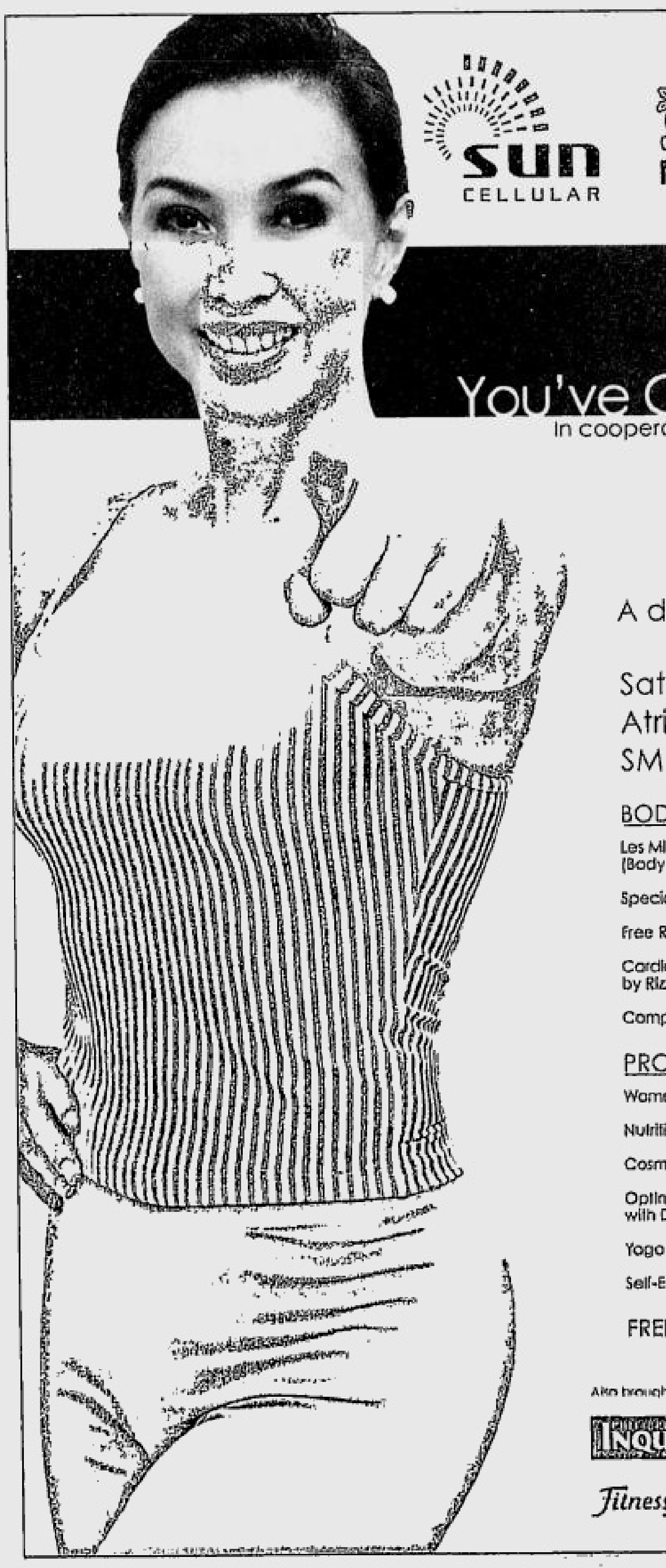
Sinner and saint

"Acting allows me to become both sinner and saint," Ronnie says. He has done the life of San Lorenzo Ruiz on stage, Chekhov's "Seagull" and Calderon's "Tatlong Parusa, Isang Sentensiya," among others.

His sad observation is that stage actors are effectively exploited in film projects. "Big film companies save a lot of money hiring stage actors, who are fast and efficient. But they get paid less than they deserve. Without theater people, *walang kulay* ang film industry. They hardly earn anything from stage work; they should get their rightful due in film assignments."

Ronnie's greatest acting challenge to date should be his work in "Panaghoy." The character is a quiet observer of life in a village by the

RONNIE/2



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Bassist of the Year: BUDDY ZABALA of TWISTED HALO & CAMBIO
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Producer of the Year: SANDWICH for THANKS TO THE MOON'S GRAVITATIONAL PULL
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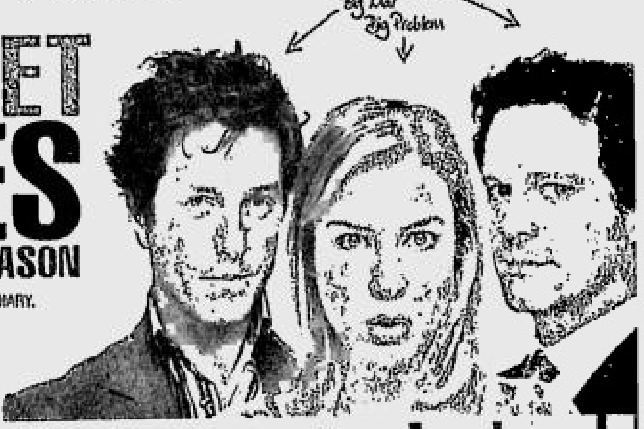
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THE PODIUM CINEMA
1 ALEXANDER
2 BRIDGET JONES 2
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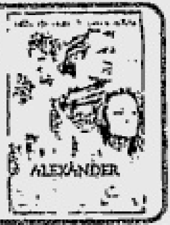

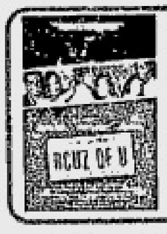

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SM Bicutan Cinema 3

MTRCB RATING:PG 13 BRIDGET JONES 2
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SM Fairview Cinema 7
SM Sta. Mesa Cinema 4
SM Megamall Cinema 9
SM Manila Cinema 6
SM North Edsa Cinema 5

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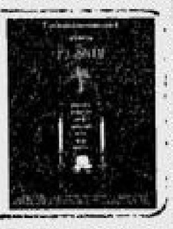
SM North Edsa Cinema 7
SM Megamall Cinema 4
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 5
SM Southmall Cinema 2
SM Sucat Cinema 4
SM Fairview Cinema 9

SUBJECT TO MTRCB RATING PA-SIYAM
SM Bicutan Cinema 2
SM Tutuban Cinema 3
SM Sucat Cinema 2
SM Southmall Cinema 7
SM Fairview Cinema 6
SM Megamall Cinema 8
SM Sta. Mesa Cinema 1
SM Manila Cinema 9
SM North Edsa Cinema 1



THE POLAR EXPRESS MTRCB Rating: G
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SM North Edsa Cinema 2
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SM Southmall Cinema 1
SM Fairview Cinema 8
SM Megamall Cinema 2
SM Sucat Cinema 1

SUBJECT TO MTRCB RATING CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS
SM Fairview Cinema 11

AFTER THE SUNSET MTRCB RATING: R13
SM Manila Cinema 2
SM Megamall Cinema 1
SM Fairview Cinema 10
SM Sta. Mesa Cinema 6
SM Southmall Cinema 3

HELLWOLF SUBJECT TO MTRCB RATING
SM Manila Cinema 8
SM Megamall Cinema 7

THE INCREDIBLES MTRCB RATING: G
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SM Megamall Cinema 6
SM North Edsa Cinema 6
SM Southmall Cinema 5
SM Fairview Cinema 2

SANTA SANTITA MTRCB RATING. PG13
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SM Sta. Mesa Cinema 10
SM Southmall Cinema 9
SM Fairview Cinema 1
SM Megamall Cinema 12
SM North Edsa Cinema 4

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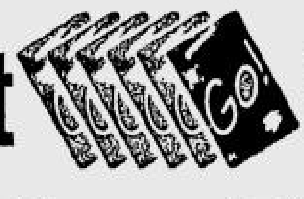

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'Motown in Motion'

PARTY and save the world at the same time? That's what a bunch of the country's biggest celebrities has done in the concert "Motown in Motion," held recently at The Fort. On Sunday, Dec. 5, at 10:30 p.m., ABS-CBN airs the concert, after "Ang Tanging Ina: The Series."

"Motown in Motion" features some of the country's top performers in a concert to benefit the Bantay Kalikasan La Mesa Watershed and Eco Park project. The project aims to convert the watershed into a nature park and biodiversity reserve for educational purposes and appreciation. The park boasts of a lagoon, biking trails and picnic areas.

Performing in "Motown in Motion" are Keith Martin, Rico J. Puno, Hajji Alejandro, Vernie Varga, Richard Merk, Agot Isidro and Ayen Munji-Laurel, Bituin Escalante, Kyla, Nina, Christian Bautista, King, Akafellas, Frenchie Dy, Sheryn Regis and Nyco Maca, as well as acclaimed actors Christopher de Leon, Michael de Mesa and Tirso Cruz III. Also featured is Spirit of '67. The event will be hosted by Ariel Ureta and Mitch Valdez.

IN MOTION. (From left) Bituin Escalante, Nyco Maca, Frenchie Dy and Sheryn Regis

Ronnie Lazaro finally spreads his wings...

From page 1

river, and is really like a prophet: He sees the village's peaceful and idyllic life, and then witnesses the horrors of war. Having gone without a bath for months, he takes a symbolic plunge into the river to symbolize the end of the war and the beginning of a new life for the village. "They have to paint me really dark for the part—dirty all over. I even asked for real dried fish to wear on my body, to attract flies. I didn't simply want to look like a village idiot; I wanted to smell like one. It helps when all the senses— smell, touch, sight—are in perfect coordination. Of course Cesar (Montano) helped me explore the role. I always welcome suggestions, otherwise I might miss out on some interesting aspects. After all, you can't act alone; you have to be part of an ensemble."

Unforgettable role

Lazaro got his first acting nomination for his work as the young guerilla leader in Peque Gallaga's "Oro, Plata, Mata."

Violation of youthful innocence is what he went through in Tikoy Aguiluz's "Boatman." It was a role that turned his life inside out. His intense acting earned him another award nomination, but he lost to Jay Ilagan (who starred in "Stella L").

"Boatman" was one assignment he can never forget. He relates: "One month before the camera started grinding, I went to Pagsanjan to immerse and be a real boatman. I ate there, slept there, had drinks with real boatmen and learned how to row. I didn't want to act like a boatman. I wanted to be one. The trouble is, two months after finishing the film, I was still playing the part. I had to learn to shed my screen role."

That role went beyond Pagsanjan river and ended in Manila where the character sold body and soul in a live show act just to survive. This was a jolt for him. "*Talagang nandiri ako* (I found it very offensive)," Ronnie recalls. "I didn't want to finish the film, but (actress) Betty Mae Piccio prodded me to."

The film got good media reviews. Korina Sanchez referred to "Boatman" as one of the best local art films ever.

THE VILLAGE idiot in "Panaghoy Sa Suba" (Call of the River), directed by Cesar Montano for the Metro Manila Film Festival

Ronnie considers the period following "Boatman" as the most trying and difficult in his career. "There were no other projects. It seemed I was fighting with everybody— classic case of me against the world. It was the lowest phase of my life. It seemed only Joel Torre believed in me. I guess I dug deep into an imaginary grave to give me a very strong motivation to be reborn."

He went back to where he started—the theater. It was a good decision—it made him want to hone his craft further, regardless of whether or not he got good projects as a result.

Time to heal

It was also the time he started to heal, and he was off to a second start when neighbor Mitch Valdez introduced him to meditation. "That was another turning point in my life," he says. "I learned to forgive not just others but mainly myself, I learned to love myself and realized I couldn't love until I could care for myself as well. I got rid of a lot of mental baggage and started to have a peaceful and meaningful life."

Soon he was back to the silver screen, and he even got to appear in foreign projects (a remake of "Return from the River Kwai" and some Chuck Norris movies) and was soon active both on stage and television.

Exactly what is it like when an actor is stuck with assorted mental baggage?

Ronnie says: "When you are weighed down by anything, you can't take off, you cannot spread your wings and fly to where you want to go. When an actor has learned to forgive, he becomes more relaxed. That is the time his most creative moments begin. Burdens prevent you from moving forward."

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5 (DOLBY) ALEXANDER
6 NATIONAL TREASURE

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‘WWW.scom’ for Marinduqueños

SATURDAY, Dec. 4, is a day for Marinduqueños when they stage “WWW.scom” at the William J. Shaw Pavilion, Wack Wack Golf and Country Club on Shaw Boulevard in Mandaluyong City.

The show is part of the "Alay Alalay" project of the socio-civic group Club Marinduque Inc. Every year, the club holds an event to raise funds for the club's projects, such as dental and medical treatment clinics for the people of Marinduque, rehabilitation of old deep well pumps as well as construction of new sources of potable water in the far-flung barangays, and academic scholarships in technical and vocational courses for deserving students from poor families.

The benefit show, “WWW.scom (Witty, Wacky Willie—That's Comedy),” is a night of laughter and dancing to the music of yesteryears. The show will feature the great impersonator Willie Nepomuceno, the famous Rockin' Revival band, and percussionist Audrey Cruz.

Club Marinduque thanks Shell Philippines, Pagoda Philippines and their friends.

’Tis season to be jolly at Merk’s this month

CRUZIN'

'TIS the season to be jolly, especially at Merk's Bar Bistro.

Acoustic Jive kicked it off on Dec. 1 and returns on Dec. 9, 23 and 30.

The pop group Forte brings the music on Dec. 3 and 17.

Cruzin' takes center stage on Dec. 4, 10, 15, 16, 18 and 31, while Route 70 plays on all Tuesdays of December as well as on Dec. 11.

Voice of Asia winner Ladine Roxas spices up Mondays with Trio. Catch Merk & Friends featuring Richard Merk, Sandra Lim and Eddie Katindig on Dec. 8, 22 and 29. Romy Posadas and Mae take turns in wowing the Happy Hour crowd.

Merk's Bar Bistro is on the third level of Greenbelt 3, Ayala Center, Makati City. Visit the website www.merksbarbistro.com for more bar bistro news. Music-lovers can e-mail Merk's at mail@merksbarbistro.com.

For more information, call Merk's at 757-4720 or 757-4721. For daily gig schedules, text ctc gig merks, send to 2333 (Globe) & 225 (Smart).

Araneta Center

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ALI MALL CINEPLEX

3	ALEXANDER	1:40 pm 5:10 pm 8:40 pm
4	NATIONAL TREASURE	12 45 pm 3:30 pm 6:15 pm 9:00 pm
5	SEED OF CHUCKY	11:30 am 1:50 pm 4:10 pm 6:30 pm 8:50 pm
6	PA SIYAM	11:20 am 1:40 pm 4:00 pm 6:20 pm 8:40 pm
7	BCUZ OF U	12.20 pm 2:30 pm 4:40 pm 6:50 pm 9:00 pm

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BRIDGET JONES DIARY 2	10:30, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 11:00	PG 13
ALEXANDER	11:45, 3:15, 6:45, 10:15	R-13
NATIONAL TREASURE	11:20, 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:20	GP
THE POLAR EXPRESS	10:30, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45	GP

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CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS GP 12:00,1:55,3:50,5:50,7:50,9:50	NATIONAL TREASURE GP 11:50,2:25,5:00,7:35,10:10	BRIDGET JONES PG13 12:50,3:10,5.30,7.50,10:10
ALEXANDER R13 12:50,4:00,7:10,10:20	SEED OF CHUCKY R18 12:00,2.00,4:00,6:00,8:00,10:00	POLAR EXPRESS GP 12:40,2:55,5.10,7:25,9:40

MATINEE SCREENINGS BEFORE 5:00 P.M. - P80.00 - MON. - FRI.

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MANILA

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MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	KERIDA / SUKDULAN
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR

NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA

A	SUGAT
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C	

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA 1 2 3 & 4	ALEXANDER BRIDGET JONES / POLAR EXPRESS / NATIONAL TREASURE
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CINEMA-1	SAW
CINEMA-2	NAKAW NA SANDALI
CINEMA-3	NATIONAL TREASURE
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	POLAR EXPRESS
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CINEMA-6	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CINEMA-7	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CINEMA-8	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	BRIDGET JONES 2
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	ALEXANDER
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	SEED OF CHUCKY
CINEMA-12	HELLWOLF
CINEMA-14	PA SIYAM
CINEMA-15	BCUZ OF U

LORES

CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN

(LAS PIÑAS)	BOURNE SUPREMACY
CINEMA-1	FENG SHUI
CINEMA-2	SECRET WINDOW
CINEMA-4	BANGKOK HAUNTED 2

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARAÑAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

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CINEMA 1	BRIDGET JONES 2 PG13	11:35, 1:55, 4:15, 6:35, 9:00
CINEMA 2	ALEXANDER R13	10:25, 1:50, 5:20, 8:50

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SHANG CINEPLEX

1	ALEXANDER	R-13/FS 11:30AM 3:00PM 6:30PM LMF 10:00 PM
2	BRIDGET JONES : The Edge of Reason	PG-13/FS 11:45AM 2:15PM 4:45PM 7:15PM LMF 9:45 PM
3	POLAR EXPRESS	GP/FS 11:30AM 2:00PM 4:30PM 7:00PM LMF 9:30 PM
4	NATIONAL TREASURE	GP/FS 11:00AM 1:45PM 4:30PM & 15PM LMF 10:00 PM
PREMIERE THEATRE	THE INCREDIBLES	GP/FS 11:30AM, 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM, LMF 9:30PM

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• METRO MANILA CINEMAS •

GALLERIA 632-9115/16

1 ALEXANDER • THX	11:40 3:00 6:20 9:40	6 NATIONAL TREASURE	10 40 1:30 4 20 7 10 10:00
2 ALEXANDER	12 10 3.30 6:50 10:10	7 BCUZ OF U	11:45 2:20 4 55 7:30 10:00
3 SEED OF CHUCKY	10 20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7 40 10:00	8 HELLWOLF	10.45 1:00 3 15 5:30 7:45 10:00
4 PA-SIYAM	10.45 1.00 3.15 5:30 7:45 10 00	9 THE POLAR EXPRESS	11 10 1:20 3.30 5 40 7:50 10.00
5 BRIDGET JONES 2	10.20 12.40 3.00 5.20 7.40 10:00	10 THE INCREDIBLES	11 40 2.10 4.40 7:10 9.40

ERMITA 636-7809 to 12

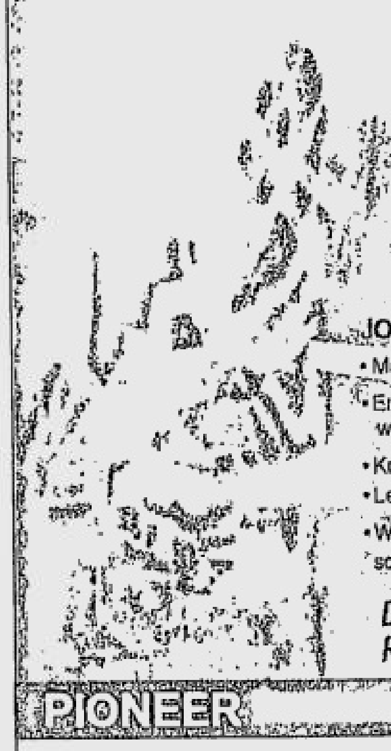
1 PA-SIYAM	10:35 12:50 3:05 5:20 7:35 9.50		
2 HELLWOLF	1:05 3:15 5:25 7:35 9:50	5 NATIONAL TREASURE	1:35 4 10 6:45 9:40
3 ALEXANDER	2:40 5:05 9:40	6 BRIDGET JONES 2	10.15 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50
4 SEED OF CHUCKY	10:15 12:15 2:15 4.20 6.25 8:25 10:00	7 RESERVE	

METRO EAST 682-8193/99 • 682-8280

1 BCUZ OF U	10:20 12.30 2 40 4:50 7.00 9.10	5 HELLWOLF	10.50 12.50 2.50 4:50 6:50 8:50 10:30
2 NATIONAL TREASURE	12.20 3:15 6.10 9 05	6 BRIDGET JONES 2	11.50 2.30 5.10 7.50 10:30
3 THE POLAR EXPRESS	10.50 12.50 2.50 4:50 6.50 9.00	7 ALEXANDER	12.40 4.00 7.20 10:30
4 THE INCREDIBLES	11:00 1.30 4:00 6 30 9:00	8 PA-SIYAM	10.25 12 40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

NOVALICHES 935-3229/31

1 ALEXANDER	10.40 1:50 5:00 8:15	5 BRIDGET JONES 2	11 00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 8:55
2 NATIONAL TREASURE	10 30 1 00 3:30 6 00 8 30	6 THE POLAR EXPRESS	10 45 1 05 3.30 5:55 8 20
3 PA-SIYAM	11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7.00 8.55	7 THE INCREDIBLES	10.30 1.00 3:30 6:00 8:30
4 BCUZ OF U	10 30 1:00 3 30 6 00 8:30	8 SEED OF CHUCKY	11:00 1:00 3:00 5 00 7:00 8.55



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- Learn the right way to pamper your pets in *Animal Care Tips*
- Watch some pets as they strut their cute costumes on stage and show some tricks in *Animal Scene* **see you there...**

December 4 (Saturday)
Robinsons Movieworld GALLERIA Cinema Lobby

PIONEER 687-6378

1 ALEXANDER	10.30 1.50 5.10 8 30	3 NATIONAL TREASURE	12 05 2 55 5 45 8.45
2 BRIDGET JONES 2	11 40 2.00 4.20 6 40 9 00	4 THE POLAR EXPRESS	11.40 2:00 4.20 6 40 9.00

Citisquare MALABON 288-0985 / 2575

1 TAXI	11:30 1.45 4:00 6:15 8:30	3 BCUZ OF U	11:10 1.30 3.50 6:10 8:30
2 THE INCREDIBLES	11 10 1:30 3.50 6:10 8 30	4 DARKNESS	11 45 1 55 4:05 6 15 8:30

CAINTA 240-4661

1 NATIONAL TREASURE	11:15 2 10 5.05 8:00	3 PA-SIYAM	11:30 1:50 4:10 6:30 8:50
2 ALEXANDER	1:55 5:15 8:35	4 BRIDGET JONES 2	12 50 3 30 6 10 8 50

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Howard directs Hanks in 'The Da Vinci Code'

LOS ANGELES—Oscar-winning actor Tom Hanks has been cast to star in an upcoming movie adaptation of Dan Brown's best-selling mystery, "The Da Vinci Code," film studio Columbia Pictures said on Tuesday.

Hanks will play the role of Robert Langdon, the Harvard professor who undertakes a modern-day quest for the Holy Grail in a thriller steeped in purported secrets about the early Christian church.

The film will be directed by Ron Howard from a screenplay by Akiva Goldman and produced by Howard's business partner, Brian Grazer, the same team behind the 2001 Oscar-winning film, "A Beautiful Mind."

HANKS

HOWARD

The studio, a unit of Japanese electronics firm Sony Corp., said the film is slated for release on May 19, 2006. Sony Pictures Entertainment Motion Picture Group Chair Amy Pascal called it "the cornerstone" of the studio's movie slate for that year.

First objective

"The potential that exists through this collaboration of material and talent is extraordinary," Pascal said. She added that the first objective "is to be as faithful as possible to the book and respectful of the fans who love it worldwide."

The book has been on nationwide bestseller lists almost nonstop since it was first published by Doubleday in 2003, including 87 weeks at the top of the New York Times bestseller list. The studio said more than 20 million copies of the novel are in print worldwide.

According to trade publications, the studio acquired rights to Brown's book last year in a reported seven-figure-deal brokered by then-Columbia executive John Calley before he stepped down as chair and CEO of Sony Pictures Entertainment.

The 48-year-old Hanks, currently featured in the animated holiday feature "The Polar Express," previously teamed up with Howard and Grazer in the space drama "Apollo 13" and his breakthrough comedy film "Splash."

Reuters

Which 'Jeopardy' whiz finally meets his match after 74 games?

KEN JENNINGS combined an extraordinary breadth of knowledge, uncanny skill at sensing the precise instant to ring his buzzer, and a sharp competitive instinct hidden behind his grin and polite manner.

NEW YORK—"Jeopardy!" whiz Ken Jennings finally met his match after a 74-game run in which he became the biggest winner in TV game show history with a haul of $2,520,700.

The pop culture icon who made brainiacs cool was beaten by a woman whose own 8-year-old daughter asked for his autograph when they first met.

Jennings was tripped up in Final Jeopardy by this answer: Most of this firm's 70,000 seasonal white-collar employees work only four months a year.

The correct reply: "What is H&R Block?" But Jennings guessed Federal Express, ending his remarkable run on the TV quiz show in which contestants are given an answer and have to come up with the correct response in the form of a question.

Having an accountant-friend who's nearly impossible to reach at tax time paid off big-time for his conqueror, California real estate agent Nancy Zerg, who ousted the baby-faced killer competitor in the episode airing Tuesday.

Where credit's due

During his streak that began June 2, Jennings usually had opponents so thoroughly beaten that the Final Jeopardy question was meaningless to the outcome.

But Zerg was within striking range at that point, with $10,000 to Jennings' $14,400.

The champion had to think; out of the corner of his eye, he noticed Zerg had quickly written her reply.

"I was pretty sure before the music ended that was the ballgame," he said in an interview with The Associated Press.

Her correct reply gave Zerg $14,001 to Jennings' $8,799.

Slight pause

Even before that, she had needed an unusual display of Jennings' fallibility to stay in the game. He twice answered wrong on Daily Double questions, which give contestants a chance to make big wagers and increase their leads.

Maybe that's why he paused, ever so slightly, when asked in the AP interview Tuesday whether he had lost or been beaten. He then graciously gave Zerg credit.

"I would have dwelt on it if I missed something that I knew or didn't phrase it in the form of a question," said Jennings, a computer software engineer from Salt Lake City.

"It was a big relief to me that I lost to someone who played a better game than me," Jennings added.

No great sin

Zerg, a former actress who lives in Ventura, California, told the AP that she psyched herself up before the game by repeating to herself: "Someone's got to beat him sometime, it might as well be me."

Hanging out backstage with fellow contestants, she saw some Jennings opponents had essentially lost before the game. She heard one person say that it looked like he was playing for second, and another just wishing not to be humiliated.

"I heard another one say, 'It's no great sin to lose to Ken Jennings,' and they went in and lost to Ken Jennings," she said. "I thought, 'That's no way to play the game.'"

Jennings' streak was made possible last fall when the quiz show started its 20th season by changing its longtime rule that said a champion must leave after five straight wins. Now a player stays until losing.

Jennings' average daily haul was $34,063.51. He gave more than 2,700 correct responses.

The hard part

He combined an extraordinary breadth of knowledge, uncanny skill at sensing the precise instant to ring his buzzer, and a sharp competitive instinct hidden behind his grin and polite manner.

It made many of the games boring. But "Jeopardy!" executives aren't complaining; ratings were up 22 percent over the same period last time.

Jennings said he'd been thinking about walking away after some future milestone—100 wins, perhaps, or $3 million or $4 million in winnings. He said there were about a dozen games where one reply made the difference between winning and losing.

"The fact that they had all fallen my way was beginning to worry me," he said, "because at some point the law of averages was going to kick in."

He wasn't prepared for how much he'd miss the daily competition, though.

"It didn't really hit me that was going to be the hard part," he said. "I thought the hard part would be the loss."

The loss is actually a distant memory and not really a secret: The show was taped in early September and news leaked right away. Video clips of his loss appeared Monday on the Internet.

H&R Block's offer

Neither Jennings nor Zerg expects the record will be broken.

"It's not because things fell the right way," she said. "It's because he's that good."

Jennings, a Mormon, will donate 10 percent of his winnings to his church—and a European vacation is planned, "probably a really nice one."

He'll hardly slip back into anonymity. He is visiting David Letterman and Regis Philbin this week, has a book deal and is open to any commercial sponsorship opportunities.

He's in a new tax bracket now, and H&R Block is making sure he'll always remember the company for other reasons: It has offered him free tax preparation for life.

> The answer he missed: Most of this firm's 70,000 seasonal employees work only four months a year

Ai Ai, Eric, other Backroom artists all over this December

SHOW TIME

ONE of the last quarter's biggest musical event happened last Saturday when comedy concert queen Ai Ai de las Alas shared the vast Araneta Coliseum stage with pop prince Erik Santos in the concert "The Prince of Pop and the Comedy Concert Queen: Two Solos, One Concert."

Ai Ai is a guest in Piolo Pascual's concert in Los Angeles and Chicago. She continues to be in demand as a performer in corporate shows, even as she hosts the "MTB" and stars in "Tanging Ina," both on ABS-CBN.

Erik is on "ASAP" every Sunday, also on ABS-CBN. He flew to Dubai to perform in a concert for the Filipino community in Dubai today.

Eric will be back in time for a guest appearance on Lea Salonga's "Home for the Holidays" concert, also at the Araneta.

Another Backroom Inc. star, Ariel Rivera, is reunited with ex-girlfriend Regine Velasquez on the GMA-7 teleserye, "Forever in My Heart," which also stars Richard Gomez.

Ariel and Regine are together again in a concert at the Araneta on Dec. 3 and 4.

Calvin Millado is busy hosting corporate shows. He soon opens his fast-food outlet in Quezon City.

Actors as singers

The Company is promoting their latest album, "Mahal Kong Radyo," from Viva Records. The group is also performing in Leah's Dec. 8 show at the Araneta.

The Tux is featured in another show at Eastwood City on Dec. 11.

K and the Boxers maintain their *puwestos* or regular gigs at the Soundstage on Tuesdays, Ratsky Malate on Thursdays and Ratsky Tomas Morato on Fridays. Kakai Brosas, the K of the group, is a mainstay on "Idol Ko Si Kap" on GMA-7

Actor Raymond Bagatsing is busy rehearsing with his newly formed band, the Bandidoz.

Raymond is host of "Nginiiig," a reality thriller on ABS-CBN.

Drew Arellano is working on the movie" Bulong: Spirit of the Glass," directed by Joey Reyes and also starring Rica Peralejo and Paolo Contis. Drew is also one of the hosts of "Unang Hirit" and "Wazzup, Wazzup," both on Studio 23.

Amy Perez hosts the controversial reality show "Deretsahan" on ABC 5 and "Wow Philippines" on PTV 4. Amy takes on a dramatic role in the teleserye "Leya" on GMA-7.

Dominic Ochoa is a host of "EK Channel" on ABS-CBN and is also busy with guest appearances in TV dramas.

Hosts, models

Bianca Gonzalez joins Ryan Agoncillo and Karen Davila in "Y Speak" on ABS-CBN. The image model of Eve, a new clothing line by Pink Soda, Bianca also hosts "Review Night," "Wazzup Wazzup" and "MTV U Break."

Ayen Munji is promoting her new album, "Thankful," distributed by BMG Records. She is one of the featured singers in a Christmas concert with the Manila Symphony Orchestra at the Eastwood on Dec. 4.

Marielle Rodriguez has just finished shooting "Rouge," a detective thriller-drama which will be shown on MTV. She also co-hosts "Extra Challenge" and is in the cast of "Love to Love," both on GMA-7.

Chase Tinio has hinds full as a ramp model and host of corporate functions. He is a regular on the show "MTV UBreak."

Dawn Zulueta, still one of the most beautiful faces in Philippine cinema, is on "Forever in My Heart," with Ariel, Regine and Richard.

Ima Castro, former lead star of "Miss Saigon," is back and often performs in corporate shows. Last Nov. 27, she was a guest in the concert "Three Tenors" featuring Bayani Fernando, Joey Lina and Angelo Reyes at the St. Mary's Magdalene Church in Cavite.

Kim Flores was one of the young sopranos featured in Ai Ai and Erik's Araneta concert last Saturday. Kim was also a guest during the recent launch of E-real Records at Party Central in Quezon City

For inquiries about Backroom talents, call 928-3121 or 435-1108 to 20.

AI AI

ERIC

DOMINIC

BIANCA

MARIEL